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Japan

Federal Express Seeking Trucking Rights

OW2308090695 Tokyo KYODO in English
0724 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO — Federal Express Corp. (Fedex) is seeking approval to truck some of its cargo in Japan and may add flights through Japan to China in the future, the express carrier's chief said Wednesday [23 August].

Fedex was assured two years ago, when U.S. trucking rights were given to Japan Airlines and Nippon Cargo Airlines, that it would get reciprocal rights in Japan but not all of them have been granted, said Frederick Smith, Fedex chairman.

"We feel the agreement that was reached at the time should be honored," Smith told the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan.

He said he expects the Japanese Government will grant permission for trucking to points not allowed so far, and other Fedex officials said they do not expect the trucking issue to come up in Japan-U.S. air cargo talks next month.

Fedex also may add air cargo routes through Japan to Beijing and Shanghai that it did not seek during Japan-U.S. Government talks, which averted possible U.S. trade sanctions with a ministerial pact July 20.

Under the agreement, Japan granted Fedex, based in Memphis, Tennessee, seven routes through Japan to other Asian destinations, particularly its new regional hub of Subic Bay in the Philippines.

Smith denied that Fedex withdrew its request for the China routes in the bargaining, saying the company had not received U.S. approval for them at the time and adding Fedex has the rights to the routes under the 1952 bilateral civil aviation treaty that both countries agreed to start renegotiating next month.

The U.S. Government informed China this week that it approved Fedex's takeover of the routes from another U.S. carrier, and China will approve the rights within 90 days, said Joseph McCarty, Fedex senior vice president for Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East.

There is "zero" chance the Beijing authorities will reject the formality of transferring the China routes, and Fedex will then be free to fly through Japan to Beijing and Shanghai if it chooses, McCarty said.

Whether Fedex can add flights through Japan to other Asian points, based on "beyond rights" under the 1952 pact, was a focus of the bilateral dispute, settled in Los Angeles by then Transport Minister Shizuka Kamei and Transportation Secretary Federico Pena.

The two sides agreed to begin renegotiating the cargo portion of the accord in September, and Japanese officials say negotiations on passenger aviation are to follow.

Japan says the treaty locks in vast occupation-era U.S. advantages, while the U.S. said Japan is not even using existing rights to fly through the U.S. and was simply trying to restrict Asia competition from the three U.S. carriers granted broad treaty rights — Fedex, United Airlines and Northwest Airlines.

Fedex, which had revenues of $9.4 billion in the year ended in May, expects Asia-Pacific revenues to jump 26 percent this business year, Fedex officials said, but they declined to provide dollar figures for the region.

Fedex ideally wants Japan and the U.S. to scrap all curbs on carriers from either country through the other bound for any destination but does not expect Japan to agree, Smith said.

Barring such an "open skies" accord, Fedex wants the two governments to agree on an "appropriate number" of approved carriers and then "free up to the maximum extent possible all cargo operations by both Japanese and U.S. carriers," he said.

Fedex, for example, wants the U.S. to eliminate curbs on where Japanese cargo carriers may land in the U.S. and remove curbs on their beyond rights to Latin America, Smith said.

Foreign Envoys Urged To Join Nuclear Protest

OW2308000895 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 22 Aug 95 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] On the afternoon of 21 August, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono called the U.S., Russian and British ambassadors to Japan to the Foreign Ministry for a meeting. At the meeting Foreign Minister Kono asked that the United States, Russia, and Britain, as nuclear powers, urge China and France to refrain from nuclear testing. He also asked for an early conclusion to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). In response to China's recent nuclear test and France's decision to resume its nuclear tests, Foreign Minister Kono made the unusual requests to impress upon them Japan's stand, as the sole nation hit by atomic bombs, against nuclear testing. In response, the three ambassadors promised they would convey the request to their home governments.

Foreign Minister Kono met Russian Ambassador Chizhov following a meeting with U.S. acting-

Ambassador Deming [name as published] and British acting-Ambassador Hanfury [name as published]. During the meeting, the foreign minister criticized both China and France for conducting nuclear tests despite a decision on an indefinite extension of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and on an early conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) that were made at a recent conference. He then called moves by China and France to conduct nuclear tests a "reversal of international opinion."

He also stated that "all nuclear powers should refrain from nuclear tests and I hope these nuclear powers consider how they can be restrained."

Tokyo To Continue Liquor Tax Talks With EU

OW2308130095 Tokyo KYODO in English
1206 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO — Japan will continue bilateral negotiations with the European Union [EU] on a liquor tax dispute to avoid discussions at a panel to be set up by the World Trade Organization (WTO), government officials said Wednesday [23 August].

The officials said a Finance Ministry official in charge of the problem will be dispatched to Geneva early next month to hold informal negotiations with the EU.

They said both sides failed to straighten out the dispute in the initial period of 60 days, allowing the EU to request the WTO to establish an expanded dispute settlement panel.

The talks stemmed from the EU's demand that Japan revise the liquor tax law to correct a tax rate gap between shochu, a Japanese distilled spirit, and whiskey. The EU claimed that the high levy on whiskey impedes exports to Japan.

The officials said there is little possibility that the dispute will be settled in bilateral negotiations since both sides remain widely apart.

They said the WTO is likely to decide to set up the panel in late September to discuss the issue.

Similar disputes with the United States and Canada are likely to be brought to the panel as no settlement is likely by Sept. 5 when the 60-day period of bilateral talks runs out, the officials said.

Takemura Plans To Attend Tahiti Nuclear Protest

OW2208055495 Tokyo KYODO in English
0456 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura formally announced plans Tuesday [22 August] to attend in his individual capacity a gathering in Tahiti to oppose the resumption of French nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

Takemura, leader of New Party Sakigake [Harbinger], the smallest of Japan's three ruling coalition parties, told a press conference after a morning cabinet meeting that he has taken formal steps to supply documents to the cabinet to seek its approval for the trip.

"I want to take part in the form of a trip which doesn't impinge on my official duties," Takemura said some quarters of the government as well as governing and opposition party members have criticized Takemura's proposal to participate, but Takemura said the Diet has already adopted a resolution opposing any resumption of nuclear weapons tests.

Participation in the Tahiti meeting will therefore be "in accord with the wishes of most of the nation," he said.

"I seek understanding as a member of a country which has suffered from atomic bombing, and as a politician."

France plans to conduct tests starting in September at its south Pacific site in Mururoa Atoll.

Takemura said he plans to leave for the meeting Sept. 1 and return Sept. 4.

"I will do my utmost not to infringe on my official duties," he said.

Asked for his reaction to Takemura's proposal, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said Takemura will go to Tahiti as an individual and he has not given any instructions or spoken to the finance minister about the matter.

Tokyo To Draw Asian Energy Project Guidelines

OW2108010495 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 18 Aug 95 Morning Edition p 7

[FBIS Translated Text] On 17 August, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] and the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy announced a plan to compile, by around October, "assessment guidelines" designed to rate Asian countries' energy projects in terms of energy efficiency, environmental protection, and other viewpoints. MITI and the agency will do this to support and promote Japanese companies' energy development projects in the Asian region, which is expected to face a strained energy demand-supply situation in the wake of rapid economic growth.

The assessment guidelines will be used as the Export-Import Bank of Japan's standard of judgment, and also as a standard to determine, when Japanese companies take part in energy development projects, whether or not such projects are safe to finance and take environmental protection into consideration.

In case of an electric power development project, for example, guidelines for assessment of projects will be compiled while taking into consideration various viewpoints — including whether or not 1) a power plant, which will be constructed in such a project, use nonoil energy resources such as coal and hydraulic power; 2) energy efficient machines are used; 3) considerations are given to such environmental protection measures as prevention of air pollution; and 4) power supply efficiency is excellent. By compiling the guidelines, the ministry and agency will create an environment in which Japanese companies can easily make inroads into foreign countries. Assessment guidelines will be compiled by three groups; electric power companies, natural gas companies, and oil refineries.

It is expected that the demand-and-supply of energy in Asia will grow by about 4 percent per year and that it will become twice as big as that of 1992 by 2010. It is also expected that following an expansion of energy supply-and-demand, demand for products which use electricity, gas, or oil and other goods will expand and investment for the improvement of infrastructure and other facilities will grow rapidly.

Tokyo Ready To Denounce WPK Envoy's Remarks

OW2308081995 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 22 Aug 95 Evening Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] The ruling coalition parties held a meeting of responsible persons on the morning of 21 August to discuss measures to deal with a report that Secretary Kim Yong-sun of the Worker's Party of Korea [WPK] of the DPRK (North Korea) has indicated that the DPRK accepted rice aid from Japan as an offer of apology for its actions in the past. Those at the meeting have decided that a message in the name of the ruling coalition delegation that visited the DPRK should be sent to Yi Chong-hyok, vice chairman of the DPRK Asian-Pacific Peace Committee. The message, demanding clarification, reads: "If WPK Secretary Kim has actually made such remarks, it is most regrettable."

Thailand Requests Help With Indochinese Roads

OW2308010395 Tokyo KYODO in English 2333 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bangkok, Aug. 23 KYODO — Thailand has called on Japan to assist in rehabilitating a potentially important land route connecting Thailand with Vietnam via mountainous southern laos, a senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official said late Tuesday evening [22 August].

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the call was made in talks Tuesday evening between Thai Foreign Minister Kasemsamoson Kasemsri and Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono.

Kono, who was to visit Cambodia on Wednesday, and Australia the following day, was quoted as replying that Japan would consider the new Thai request in the context of its recently proposd blueprint for the transportation network in the Indochina peninsula.

Japan unveiled the blueprint last February at the first meeting of the forum for comprehensive development of Indochina, held in Tokyo.

Route 9, which is in many places treacherous and unpaved, connects Bangkok with the central coast of Vietnam, linking up there with a major north-south transportation artery near the former imperial capital of Hue and the major port city of Danang.

Proposals for its rehabilitation have been aimed at enabling the three countries to exploit the potential for increased trade and tourism.

Last week, Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet reportedly informed visiting Thai Finance Minister Surakiart Sathirathai [name as received] in Hanoi that Laos has conveyed its readiness to allow work on the road to commence in its southern province of Savannakhet.

The future of Route 9 had been somewhat hazy since landlocked Laos had placed top priority on the rehabilitation of another road, Route 8, which would be a shorter link between its capital and a sea port.

The Japanese official said the question of assistance related to Route 9 is being carefully considered, with Tokyo having already indicated a willingness to finance construction of a key bridge long the route, that would facilitate passage of people and goods over the Mekong River.

Kasemsi said the significance of road rehabilitation projects in Indochina should not be underestimated as they have ramifications beyond the immediate region.

"This means something for Malaysia and Singapore too," he was quoted as saying.

Kasemsi said Thailand intends to join in the proposed project in the context of its proposed new fund for economic development assistance for Indochina, which would make available grants and soft loans for infrastructure development projects in the region.

Officials said Kono told Kasemsi that Japan is well aware of the importance of rehabilitating road links as a means of facilitating economic development in the region.

But he said the countries concerned must, at the same time, consider a broad range of related matters, such as the adjustment of regulations concerning driving licences and insurance schemes.

Bangladesh Envoy Seeks Funds for Bridge Project

BK2108161395 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in Bengali 1500 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman currently visiting Japan held a meeting with the president of the Japan Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Mr. Akira Nishigaki. During the meeting held at the office of the fund yesterday, the president of the fund, Mr. Nishigaki, appreciated the initiatives undertaken by the Bangladesh Government for the overall development of the country. The foreign minister of Bangladesh appraised him of the position of the present democratic government and the firm determination of the government to uphold the democratic process. He recalled with gratitude the valuable assistance that has been provided by Japan for the development of the infrastructure in Bangladesh.

Mr. Mustafizur Rahman drew his attention to the project proposal prepared by the fund for the construction of Rupsa Bridge, and called upon Japan to provide assistance for the implementation of this project on a priority basis. Mr. Nishigaki gave the assurance that the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund will conduct a review of the case to make a decision after receiving the feasibility report and the project proposal. The president of the fund urged the foreign minister of Bangladesh to expedite the decision of the government regarding the loan agreement for the development project of Chittagong Port.

ExIm Bank To Extend Joint Loan to Philippines

OW1808095895 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 18 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 18 KYODO — The Export-Import Bank of Japan (ExIm Japan) said Friday [18 August] it has signed an agreement to lend 90 million dollars in a joint bank loan to the Manila branch of Citibank of the United States to finance the expansion of telephone networks in the Philippines.

Five Japanese commercial banks, including Sumitomo Bank, the Industrial Bank of Japan, and Mitsubishi Bank, will participate in the loan, ExIm Japan said.

The governmental bank said the proceeds of the loan will be used to provide a sub-loan to finance purchases from Japan of goods and services required for a project by digital telecommunications Philippines, a private Philippine Telecommunications Company.

The project will help meet increasing demand for telephone lines in the Philippines, ExIm Japan said.

Takemura on Second Extra Budget, Cosmo Scheme

OW2308144495 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO — The government is considering compiling a second supplementary budget for this fiscal year by the end of September, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday [23 August].

"We want to complete arrangements for the extra budget by September," Takemura said during a press conference.

The government will decide on and make known the basic policy for the extra budget soon, perhaps next week, to start consultations with each government ministry and agency, Takemura said.

Upon compilation, the government will (?hold an extra) session this fall, depending on the schedule of the Diet.

While reiterating that the size of the extra budget is not to be set at the beginning, Takemura said the budget should be positive for the economy, which he said is mixed with bright and dark spots.

On a liquidation scheme for the failed Cosmo Credit Corp., Takemura said he expects it to be finalized as early as late this week if everything goes smoothly.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government, which supervises credit unions in Tokyo, is now making final arrangements in cooperation with the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan to settle Cosmo's irrecoverable debts estimated at 240 billion yen.

Meanwhile, from Thursday, Takemura will start visiting several businesses and service industries to assess economic conditions on the spot.

Takemura said he wants to reflect the candid voices of those working at different businesses in different regions in future government policies.

'Special Fund' for Failed Lenders Considered

OW2208224095 Tokyo KYODO in English 1217 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — The Finance Ministry is considering setting up a special fund financed by all financial institutions to aid in the disposal of failed lenders as a way to reinforce the existing deposit insurance system, ministry sources said Tuesday [22 August].

The fund, which may also be partially financed by public money, is aimed at supporting financial institutions which take over the operations of a bankrupt lender, the sources said.

After discussion by the Financial System Research Council, an advisory body to the finance minister, the Deposit Insurance Law will be revised accordingly at an ordinary Diet session next year, they said.

The fund is likely to be created within Deposit Insurance Corp. and will last only five years, during which time the ministry intends to finalize the disposal of bad loans held by Japanese financial institutions, they said.

In the case of the failed Cosmo Credit Corp. the ministry faced difficulties in persuading six creditor banks to give up all of their claims on the beleagued company.

The ministry plans to ask all the nation's financial institutions to provide money for the fund, regardless of their relationship to failed financiers, the sources said.

Deposit Insurance Corp., set up in 1971, collects premiums from member financial institutions to guarantee deposits in case of bankruptcy, but its outstanding reserves amounted to only some 870 billion yen, according to the ministry.

The ministry has decided not to carry out "payoffs" or limited repayment of deposits at failed lenders for a period of five years.

In order to protect depositors, therefore, the use of public money, such as special loans by the Bank of Japan, will also be needed in addition to financial support by Deposit Insurance Corp., they said.

Financial institutions should make their utmost efforts at self-help as a prerequisite to the use of taxpayers' money, they said.

The ministry is therefore considering asking all of them to invest in the special fund, they said.

The ministry is also of the opinion that injecting public money into the special fund may win people's understanding much more easily than using such money for individual lenders, they said.

Authorities' Right on Lender Failures Viewed

OW2208140995 Tokyo KYODO in English
1300 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — Supervisory authorities should have the right to plead failure at financial institutions to expedite their liquidation, an advisory body to the finance minister said Tuesday [22 August].

A working group of a subcommittee under the Financial System Research Council largely agreed that administrative authorities should have the right to file with courts bankruptcy petitions for financial institutions due to the special characteristics of lenders, Finance Ministry officials said.

At the second round of meetings on the deposit insurance system, the group also called for Deposit Insurance Corp. to assume an administrator's function, the officials said.

The panel discussed procedures for liquidation of failed lenders and early corrective steps to prevent failure of financial institutions, and urged revisions in laws so that authorities can judge insolvency of lenders, they said.

Many group members also argued that payoffs or limited repayments of deposits be an exceptional step even after a target period of five years, during which the ministry intends to finalize the disposal of bad loans, they said.

Some members urged that deposits with higher interest rates be unprotected to foster the institutions' sense of self-responsibility, they said.

The group will report these views when the subcommittee meets Aug. 29 to discuss the stabilization of the financial system, they said.

LDP: Murayama Deviated From Diet Resolution

OW2208134995 Tokyo KYODO in English
1331 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — Members of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) charged Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama with deviating from the Diet's no-war resolution when he apologized for Japanese atrocities during World War II in an Aug. 15 statement marking the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

The charges surfaced at a meeting of the leaders of the three-party ruling coalition, in which the LDP is the largest member, but the prime minister's top aides and Murayama's Social Democratic Party (SDP) denied that he deviated from the June 9 Diet resolution.

LDP Secretary General Hiroshi Mitsuzuka said Murayama deviated from the Diet resolution by apologizing for Japan's colonial rule and aggression during World War II.

"In the parliament-cabinet system, government is the responsibility of the Diet. Within the party, we are of the strong opinion that the government and party shouvd move forward as one," Mitsuzuka said.

Murayama, who is also SDP chairman, replied that he had studied the remarks of former prime ministers and previous Diet debate on the historical interpretation of the war, stressing he wanted to make a clear and unambiguous statement.

"I don't think I deviated in any major way from the Diet resolution," Murayama countered.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka, an SDP lawmaker, said the prime minister's remarks successfully brought together the main themes of the Diet resolution, "remorse," "morals" and "peace."

In his widely hailed statement, Murayama said, "Japan, following a mistaken national policy...and, through its colonial rule and aggression, caused tremendous damage and suffering to the peoples of many countries, particularly to those of Asian nations."

In June, the ruling coalition forced a resolution through the powerful House of Representatives that stated, "solemnly reflecting upon many instances of colonial rule and acts of aggression in the modern history of the world, and recognizing that Japan carried out those acts in the past, inflicting pain and suffering upon the people of other countries, especially in Asia, the members of this house express a sense of deep remorse."

Parliamentary Strength in Both Diet Houses

OW2208074295 Tokyo KYODO in English
0642 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — The following is a table of parliamentary strength in both houses of the Diet following reinstatement Tuesday [22 August] to the Liberal Democratic Party of House of Representatives Member Koji Yasuoka.

House of Representatives	House of Councillors
Ruling Coalition	
LDP 208	LDP 110
SDP 64	SDP 39
New Party Sakigake 20	New Party Sakigake 3
Opposition	
Shinshinto 169	Heisei Kai 68
JCP 15	JCP 14
Minshu-no-kai 5	Shin Ryokufu-kai 5
New Democratic Club 3	Niin Club 4
Independent Club 3	Citizen Peace 2
Independents 13	Independents 6
Vacancies 11	Vacancies 1
Total 511	252

Note: LDP is the Liberal Democratic Party, SDP is the Social Democratic Party and JCP is the Japanese Communist Party.

Murayama Seeks New Party With Diverse People

OW2308051295 Tokyo KYODO in English
0417 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sendai, Aug. 23 KYODO — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said Wednesday [23 August] his Social Democratic Party (SDP) aims to attract people of various backgrounds and opinions to make up the proposed new party that would be the successor to the present SDP.

"We hope to take such a measure under which we will let those who support our philosophy and policy gather, rather than selecting people," Murayama said in a speech delivered at the outset of a four-day convention of the one million-member All Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers Union (Jichiro).

The prime minister said he is prepared to "sacrifice" himself for the creation of a new party, apparently suggesting he does not hope to head the planned party.

Murayama reiterated his hope to create a new ruling party. The SDP plans to dissolve itself and form a new party, gathering Japan's nonconservative political forces, in order to regain vigor and popularity.

It was the first time Murayama had attended a convention of a labor union since he took office in June last year.

Morishige Goto, chairman of Jichiro, the largest support group for the SDP, expressed concern over the new party scheme in a speech during the conference in Sendai, to questioned whether the SDP leadership of Murayama, the chairman, and Secretary General Wataru Kubo can change the party into a new body.

"It is not a situation we can look at without caring," he said. Kubo proposed the new party program last year, but the idea has yet to materialize.

Goto, however, urged union members to expedite preparing for the anticipated "liberal" party that it is hoped would gain wide popular support.

Nakasone Backs Hashimoto in LDP Presidency Bid

OW2308083295 Tokyo KYODO in English
0754 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] V KYODO — Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone added his support Wednesday [23 August] to the campaign of International Trade and Industry Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto for the Liberal Democratic Party's top post.

Hashimoto announced his candidacy for the presidency Monday and received the support of former foreign minister Michio Watanabe on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, Hashimoto called on Nakasone at the former prime minister's office, and the former premier said he supports Hashimoto's policies and political positions.

Nakasone, who led the party in the early 1980s, urged Hashimoto to gain support from the middle-of-the-roaders while centering on "a new conservatism and liberalism."

"I also want respect paid to the autonomy of the LDP," Nakasone said.

In stressing the revival of the economy, Nakasone suggested that Hashimoto appoint economic-minded ministers who will be "popular" and able to "raise the value of stocks" if he wins the leadership race and ever assumes control of the government.

KDD To Launch International Data Transmission

OW2208121995 Tokyo KYODO in English
1140 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO — Japan's international telecommunication giant KDD said Tuesday [22 August] it plans to launch a new international data transmission service via satellite Sept. 1.

The company said its plan calls for multiple data transmission to overseas locations via satellites of the International Telecommunication Satellite Organization (Intelsat).

Signals transmitted from Japanese stations will be received and distributed via small ground stations, which will be set up in regions where the telecommunication infrastructure has yet to be consolidated, the company said.

It said the service will begin between Japan and Vietnam, and gradually be expanded to cover countries in Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

The company said it applied to the posts and telecommunications ministry on Tuesday for approval of the project.

Plant Investments To Increase 3.9 Percent

OW2008094895 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 17 Aug 95 Morning Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the results from a 16 August NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN survey on the private sector's updated plant investment plans (as of 1 August), overall total investments (based on projects) will grow by 3.9 percent this year over 1994 figures. This will be the first growth in four years, and represents a 0.2 percent upward readjustment from initial plans. Helped by big growth in segments in the electric machinery and the paper and pulp sector, the manufacturing industry's investments will lead the growth, topping the 1994 investments by 10.1 percent. The growth of the nonmanufacturing industry will be flat.

While businesses are cautious about making investments to increase production, investments appear to be recovering, though moderate in pace. It is likely that growth will play a leading role in propping up the economy.

A total of 2,028 companies responded to the survey this time. While only domestic plant investments were subject to the survey, overseas plant investments were included in the figures for some electric machinery companies. The total plant investments in the original plans represented an increase of 3.7 percent from the previous year's actual total plant investments. When a survey was conducted in February, 1,682 companies responded, and the numbers given showed they were cutting overall investments by 0.5 percent [from the original plans]. The increase from the original plans as shown in the recent survey is believed due to the fact that 1) many of the companies, which did not respond to the February survey but did respond this time were found to have set 1995 investment plans at levels higher than last year; and, 2) some companies which responded to the survey in February and reported in it they had set their initial investment plans at the same levels as previous years, were found to have subsequently readjusted their plans upward.

The recent survey shows that updated 1995 plans for plant investments represent the first increase since 1991. Plant investments continued to drop for the past three years since 1992 — by 9.0 percent in that year, 11.8 percent next year, and 7.6 percent the following year. The 1995 plant and equipment investments for the total industry excluding the electric power industry will grow by 4.6 percent over 1994. Electric power companies, however, are moving to reduce their investments in view of the fact that the principle of open competition will be put into force in the market beginning next year.

In the manufacturing sector, 14 industry segments, excluding pharmaceuticals, petroleum and transportation machinery, were found to have readjusted their investment plans upward. Large additional investments in semiconductors are following one after another in the electric machinery industry, which is known to have impacts on the overall industry. These investments are meant to deal with the immediate problem of short inventories as well as the new demand expected in personal computers and portable information terminals in two to three years from now. NEC has added 30 billion yen to its initial plan to bring up by half a year a project to increase domestic circuits. Toshiba has added 20 billion yen since the previous survey was conducted. As far as that particular industry is concerned, this is the highest growth level in the past 10 years.

In the paper and pulp industry, there has been a growing trend of demand recovering since the last half of 1994. The industry's ambitious plan calls for investing 50.5 percent more in plants and equipment this year than it did last year. Nippon Paper Industries and Shinoji Paper Manufacturing; meanwhile, want to increase their production only by conducting minor remodeling on their facilities.

In the machine tool and automobile sector, there is a growing mood to expand investments, but there is no change in the attitude of wanting to be cautious. There still being the feeling that Japan's production capacity is in excess, many companies think, "For the time being, there will be no major investments in this country," (to quote Yoshifumi Tsuji, president of Nissan). What investments the companies do make will be limited to those needed to change production lines for producing new vehicle models.

As far as the nonmanufacturing sector is concerned, five out of 16 segments have chosen to readjust investment plans downward. In the real estate segment, which anticipates further drops in land prices, there has been a major decline in business. As such, there are no plans for big development projects or big office building projects. In fact, further decrease in investments are expected next year. With domestic consumption having decreased and commodity prices plunging, the retail industry is not doing well.

Plant investments by over-the-counter stock companies (excluding the Japan Air System) will grow 2.8 percent over last year. The growth rate of their investments is lower than that for listed stock companies, which means medium-sized companies' investments in plants and equipment are relatively slow.

The survey was conducted when the foreign exchange rate was about 80 yen to the dollar. Since then, the yen has dropped to approximately 100 yen to the dollar in value. Helped by this improved export condition, it is possible that plant investments will increase, led by the manufacturing industry.

Updated Plant and Equipment Investments Plan for 1995

	Number of Companies	Updated 1995 Plan	Change Rate over Initial Plan	1994 Actual Investments Plan
Total Industry	2,028	18,177,017 (3.9)	0.2	17,486,977 (-7.6)
(sans electric power industry)	2,015	13,898,828 (4.6)	1.1	13,285,323 (-8.3)
Manufacuturing Industry	1,172	7,539,415 (10.1)	2.1	6,846,746 (-7.9)
Nonmanufacturing Industry	856	10,637,602 (0.0)	-1.1	10,640,231 (-7.4)

(Based on projects; unit in million yen; numbers within parentheses are percentage growth rates over preceding year)

Firm To Build 64M DRAM Wafer Plant in U.S.

OW2208143595 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 18 Aug 95 Morning Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Mitsubishi Materials Corporation [MMC] will construct a plant in Oregon to turn out eight-inch wafers used to manufacture 64-megabit DRAM's (dynamic random access memory), the next-generation semiconductor. MMC will invest approximately 7 billion yen to construct the wafer plant, which will be put into operation in January 1997. MMC is the first firm to construct a wafer plant capable of mass producing the wafers used to manufacture the next-generation chip. Toshiba Corporation and IBM have formed a joint venture to produce 64-megabit DRAM's in Virginia in the autumn of 1997. MMC, which ranks third in the Japanese wafer industry, aims to increase its share in the fast-growing U.S. wafer market by making an early investment in the United States.

Siltech [name as published] of California, a subsidiary of MMC in the United States, will start constructing the wafer plant in October. Siltech is now constructing a plant for the assembly-line production of silicon wafers in Salem, Oregon, and the wafer plant will be constructed on the same site. The wafer plant will mass produce epitaxial wafers, which make minute processing easier by forming an oxide film on eight-inch wafers. MMC will construct the two plants with an investment of 32 billion yen.

The total floor area of the wafer plant is about 3,000 square meters. The target set by MMC for the sale of wafers in 1998 is approximately $100 million. MMC plans to produce 40,000-45,000 sheets of eight-inch wafers a month and will increase the number of workers at Siltech by 500, or about 60 percent, to 1.300.

It is technically possible to manufacture up to 16-megabit DRAM's with conventional wafer, but manufacturing 64-megabit DRAM's requires the epitaxial wafers, the quality of which is greatly improved by forming an oxide film on them, to deal with the greatly narrowed line width of the circuits. Toshiba and IBM plan to promote the development of new DRAM's using the epitaxial wafers.

In addition to the wafer plant, MMC plans to spend approximately 3 billion yen to increase the production capacity of wafers for the existing plant being operated by Siltech in Salem, Oregon.

North Korea

KEDO Reactor Survey Team Departs Pyongyang

SK2208133495 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A light-water reactor site survey team of the United States of America-led Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO], headed by a U.S. Department of Energy expert, left Pyongyang by plane on 22 August.

The survey team, which arrived in our country on 15 August, carried out an on-the-spot survey at the site of the light-water reactors and also carried out negotiations.

KCNA Reports on U.S. 'Espionage'

SK2308043995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 23 Aug 95

["U.S. Imperialists' Air Espionage Against North" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The U.S. imperialist warmaniacs carried out espionage on the northern half of Korea in the sky above Tokjok Islet on the Korean West Sea [Yellow Sea] and in the sky above the waters off Yangyang on the Korean East Sea [Sea of Japan] on August 21, with the mobilization of an "RC-135" strategic reconnaissance plane and a "P-3" patrol plane, military sources said.

On the same day, a "U-2" and more than ten tactical reconnaissance planes flew one after another in the sky along the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) and made a day-and-night air photographing and electronic espionage on the in-depth area of the North, the frontline area and the eastern and western coastal areas.

ROK-U.S. Ulchi-Focus Lens Exercise Denounced

SK2308045495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 23 Aug 95

["Act Chilling Zeal for Peaceful Reunification" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets on August 21 started the "Ulchi Focus Lens 95", a provocative war rehearsal, according to a Seoul-based radio report.

The war rehearsal to go for 12 days till September 1 is said to be the U.S.-South Korea Combined Command post exercise to "master systems and proceedings for performing duties necessary for implementing instructions given in wartime".

The reckless war rehearsal of the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets, a replica of the "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsal, is an intolerable challenge chilling the entire nation's zeal for peaceful reunification that has run higher on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of national liberation.

Daily Denounces U.S.-ROK Munitions Agreement

SK2308042195 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1225 GMT 22 Aug 95

[NODONG SINMUN 22 August commentary: "War Maniacs Frenziedly Engaged in Arms Buildup"]

[FBIS Translated Text] South Korea is now making alarming moves running counter to the national aspiration for peaceful reunification. The South Korean puppet National Defense Ministry and the command of the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea have reportedly recently signed a so-called munitions agreement. According to the agreement, a large quantity of U.S. Army war equipment — including 275 M48A5 tanks, 13 large guns, and some 40,000 tonnes of ammunition, which are combat equipment of the U.S. occupation forces stored in South Korea — will be handed over to the puppet army by mid-September.

This clearly shows that the Kim Yong-sam ring is frantically accelerating war preparations in collusion with outside forces, dreaming of reunifying the country through a northward invasion by using armed forces, pouring cold water onto our nation's aspiration for reunification, which is ever growing as days go by.

The reckless arms buildup by the South Korean puppets, who serve as war servants of the outside forces and are frenzied with maneuvers to drive the nation into a war disaster, is arousing all the people's furious indignation.

Following the U.S. imperialists' aggression and war maneuver to threat and crush our Republic by force, the puppet Kim Yong-sam clique is frenziedly engaged in arms buildup in South Korea. The puppets brought in 214 missiles and missile launching ramps from the United States last year. They are dragging in many U.S. weapons of mass destruction, including large artillery units that detect radar that is an updated weapon of the United States, this year, too.

Not satisfied with this, the Kim Yong-sam ring promised to take over a large quantity of war equipment, including hundreds of tanks and tens of thousand tonnes of ammunition, which the aggression forces have dragged into South Korea in a bid to invade the North. This plainly shows that its war frenzy has reached an extreme level.

Moreover, what cannot be overlooked is the fact that the munitions agreement signed between the puppet army and the Untied States stipulates that the puppet army will be responsible for the management of the ammunition warehouse of the aggression forces in return for taking over the U.S. Army's war equipment. This shows that the Kim Yong-sam ring is willing to become a sentry who safeguards the outside forces' nuclear weapons storage. As has been exposed, the Kim Yong-sam ring called on their U.S. master to beg the latter to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise and bring in Patriotic missiles in South Korea. He also promised to open up even the South Korean weapons and munitions market. This is aimed at appeasing the hunger of the U.S. munitions industry, which has suffered difficulties in finding markets since the Cold War system disappeared.

It is a spiritless act to give excessive profits to U.S. war businessmen by wasting taxes paid by the sweat of the people's brows; it is an intolerable, antinational, and bellicose act that can be done only by such a loathsome war servant as the Kim Yong-sam ring to take over the aggression forces' murderous weapons in a bid to harm fellow countrymen and to play the role as a sentry who safeguards their ammunition warehouse in return for delivery.

The crafty U.S. imperialists are trying to gain the third party's profit while arousing the South Korean puppet army, their war puppets, to provocations toward a war of northward invasion even by handing over their weapons of mass destruction. Meanwhile, the Kim Yong-sam ring is frenzied with an attempt to spread the fuse of war of northward invasion, availing itself of the worthless new war provocation maneuvers perpetrated by its master. Their bellicose nature has been fully revealed again before the very eyes of the world.

Our people and the People's Army are watching quite attentively the reckless maneuvers of the Kim Yong-sam ring, which is madly engaged in an arms buildup in a bid to invade the North with the outside forces.

We repeatedly warn that the Kim Yong-sam ring, a group of war servants, had better stop its foolish and reckless act, which is like an act of a new-born puppy that is too young to be afraid of a tiger.

Analyst Criticizes Kim Yong-sam Speech

SK2308051195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 23 Aug 95

["Pitiful Outcries of Colonial Puppet" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The traitor Kim Yong-sam in his "celebration address" brought forward the "basic principle for preservation of peace" on the Korean peninsula. Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

It can never be overlooked that the traitor Kim Yong-sam mocked the people and misled public opinion, impudently talking about the question directly linked with the destiny of the nation. He said that it is "the North and the South which should build a peace system" on the Korean peninsula. This is a nonsensical outcry. The question of replacing the old armistice system on the Korean peninsula with a new peace mechanism is a matter which should be settled between the DPRK and the United States, the real parties to the armistice agreement.

The South Korean puppets are not a signatory to the Korean amristice agreement, doggedly opposed its signing and are a colonial group which does not exercise the prerogative of supreme command of the army, so they have no qualification and ground to poke their nose into this question.

The traitor Kim's utterances that "cooperation and backing" of states concerned are needed for establishing peace system are also nonsensical. While vociferating about the "inter-Korean solution" of the question of establishing a peace system, he is clamouring about the establishment of the peace system with "cooperation and backing" of states concerned. Are these remarks reasonable? it is self-evident that Kim Yong-sam, who is getting mad at blocking the establishment of peace system, cannot say words conforming to reason.

The traitor Kim let loose a string of outdated outcries "respect to inter-Korean agreement" and "confidence-building". It is nothing but a sophism to conceal their anti-national, anti-peace and anti- reunification color in systematically violating the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization and bringing the inter-Korean relations to the worst phase.

The puppet Kim Yong-sam said "the North and the South should jointly seek measures to observe the armistic agreement and build a peace system". It is also unreasonable. It is the DPRK and the United States that should take all the measures to establish a peace system because the United States takes hold on all powers in South Korea including the prerogative of supreme command of the army and is the real party to the armistice agreement. Kim Yong-sam is brazenfaced and stupid. He does not mind his p's and q's.

It is unpardonable that he made provocative remarks that he hopes for "stability of the North".

His sophism is a pitiful outcry of a person who is afraid of the might of the DPRK which is winning victory after victory as the days go by.

The "basic principle" brought forward by the traitor Kim Yong-sam in his "celebration remarks" is, in the long run, a replica of the old document with nothing new.

Students' Arrest Called 'Fascist Outrage'

SK2308110395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 23 Aug 95

["Abominable Fascist Outrage" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The Kim Yong-sam group of South Korea imprisoned student Kim Hyong-kwang of Korea University on August 18 on charge of the publication of a literature favoring the North's reunification proposal and distribution of its copies. And the fascist clique are going to arrest the chairman of the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon), its National Reunification Committee chairman, the chairman of the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils (Sochongnyon) and delegates of "Hanchongnyon" under the South side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youths and Students for the Country's Reunification who participated in the August 15 Grand National Reunification Festival.

This fascist outrage is an unacceptable challenge to the fellow countrymen' desire for reunification.

At a time when the people's desire for reunification is ever growing, the Kim Yong-sam group are persistently resorting to the "National Security Law." This goes to show that their repressive offensive for getting rid of the pro-reunification patriotic forces has reached extremes.

With the indiscriminate suppression of the pro-reunification patriotic forces going on, the Kim Yong-sam group held a "consultative meeting for democracy and peaceful unification" on Monday [21 August], crying for "improvement of inter-Korean relations" and the "people's agreement for reunification".

It is nothing but hypocrites' sophism aimed at covering up their true color as separatists.

The traitor Kim, instead of fooling the people with such a sophism, must promptly stop the suppression of the patriotic champions of reunification and scrap the "National Security Law," an anti-reunification law.

Hanchongnyon Delegates Visit Sites in Pyongyang

SK2208122995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — Chong Min-chu and Yi Hye-chong, delegates of the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) of the South side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghaknyon), visited different places in Pyongyang.

They were accompanied by Choe Chong-nam, director of the joint- secretariat of Pomchonghangnyon.

They visited the Mansudae Art Studio on August 21. They went round studio rooms wonderfully built to be modern and allround art creation bases.

At the Korean painting production group, the delegates jointly drew a picture of one country with magnolias in full bloom together with young artists and wrote on the picture "Division Is 50 Years Long But the Nation Lives Hundreds of Millions of Years".

After visiting the studio, Chong Min-chu in the visitor's book wrote: I express the belief that in a reunified country we will draw mountains and streams not only in the North but also in the South and sing of the country. I hope that works which will further glorify the nation will be created.

The delegates told the employees of the studio that through the visit to the studio they have come to know better about the artistic talent and potentials of the Korean nation capable of wonderfully drawing the beautiful looks of a reunified country. They called for waging a more vigorous struggle together for the day of national reunification.

They visited the Pyongyang metro, went round the Chongnyu Bridge, mounted Moran Hill and commanded a bird's-eye view of Pyongyang.

Japan Urged To Pay for 'Past Crimes'

*SK2208151495 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1502 GMT 22 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — Compensation for Japan's past crimes should, on any account, be a state-level compensation based on the recognition of state responsibility, said the head of the government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on August 11, at the 47th meeting of the U.N. Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities now under way in Geneva.

"Whenever the matter of past crimes figures, Japan argues that matters on war crimes have already been dealt with in accordance with a 'convention', that the compensation has been settled in accordance with bilateral agreement and that the prescription ended," he said, noting, "We can never tolerate this argument."

"We deem that Japan has no ground to argue that the matter of compensation has been settled legally," he said.

"The Japanese Government is avoiding the government-level compensation even for the largest-scale crimes that reduced more than 200,000 women to sex slaves and murdered most of them, and inaugurated 'the Asia Peace National Fund for Women' ignoring strong opposition of the world community, and is advertising it in an ostentatious manner," he said, adding, "In essence, the 'fund' is seeking to smooth down the anti-ethical crime in the form of collecting money from people and pretending the state's involvement in it, while dodging the state's responsibility for the crime and, in the long run, to hush up the overall crime."

"We underline once again that all compensation must be state compensation based on recognition of the state's responsibility," he said.

Daily Warns Japan Against 'Reinvasion'

*SK2308050295 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0448 GMT 23 Aug 95*

["Japan Must Not Forget Lesson of History" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The Japanese reactionaries had better know that Japan's reinvasion will invite another defeat as ignominious as what it sustained 50 years ago and will bring misfortune and disgrace to its people again, warns NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

They should have drawn a serious lesson from the Japanese imperialists' defeat, discarded their militarist concept and ambition and sought reconciliation and peace, but they have failed to do so, the article says, and goes on:

Those countries which committed war crimes repented of and atoned for their misdeeds or are doing so. But Japan's thinking pattern and attitude remains unchanged.

What is more serious is that Japan is trying hard to realise the nuclear design it failed in the past. The successive Japanese reactionary ruling quarters have accelerated the nuclear armament to turn Japan into a nuclear power with the fine-sounding "three non-nuclear principles," availing themselves of Japan being a nuclear victim.

They think that only nuclear armament makes it possible for Japan to take a privileged position as a superpower, establish a new order of Asia led by Japan and have the world under their thumb.

It is strikingly clear how terribly the peace and security of Asia and the world will be endangered by nuclear-equipped Japanese militarist forces that are seeking revenge for Japan's defeat in World War II and trying to dominate Asia and the world.

When a brigand sharpens his dagger, he intends to injure and rob others, not to defend himself.

It is the general goal of the Japanese reactionaries to pave the way of overseas aggression and realise their long-cherished dominationist design. They have long pushed ahead with preparations to this end.

Since the superpowers' policy of strength went busted and they lost rivals in arms race, the Japanese militarists have been on the lookout for overseas aggression.

The first target of their overseas aggression is Korea. In actuality, they intend to raise the curtain of their overseas aggression in the Korean peninsula.

The international community, however, will never allow it.

The Asian peoples, who were victims of the Japanese imperialists' most brutal and barbarous aggression, are keeping heightened vigilance against Japan's design of reinvasion. They are resolved to sternly punish the Japanese militarists if they dare start reinvasion.

The Japanese reactionaries' intention to dominate the world is as foolish as trying to catch the sun.

Japan would be well advised to stop such foolish acts as inviting misfortune by itself and seek peace in keeping with the trend of the time.

Foreign Ministry Memo on Japan's Past Crimes

SK2108231695 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 14 Aug 95

[DPRK Foreign Ministry's Memorandum on Japan for Beautifying and Embellishing Its Crimes Against the Korean People, Not Apologizing for Them; read by announcer — all numbers as heard]

[FBIS Translated Text] DPRK Foreign Ministry Memorandum: Fifty years have passed since the end of World War II, a war which forced all sorts of calamities, disaster, and suffering on the Korean people as well as on all mankind.

Correctly assessing past history and finding a lesson from it becomes a foundation for mankind's bright future. However, ignoring the stark historical facts, Japan has beautified and embellished the history of its aggression while refusing to apologize for it even today.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry released this memorandum to reveal, one by one, the illegal and invalid nature of the aggression and occupation of Korea by Japanese imperialists, the gravest crime of all their crimes against our people in the past, and to urge Japan to liquidate its past crimes through a sincere apology and compensation.

1. The Japanese imperialists were aggressors against and occupiers of Korea

The history of Japan in the modern age cannot be thought of apart from its aggression against Korea. Japan, which embarked on the road of capitalism after the Meiji Restoration, began to embark on the road of full-scale aggression against Korea and other Asian countries, clamoring about the doctrine of conquering Korea and the doctrine of wealth and military power to supplement its political and economic backwardness as compared with Western countries and to fill the loss occurred in trade with them.

The brigandish doctrine of conquering Korea by force of arms was a deep-rooted policy that originated the Greater East Asia Co- Prosperity Sphere.

Under such an ambition for aggression, the Japanese aggressors fabricated the Unyangho incident with the aim of subordinating Korea by force of arms before King Taewon's national isolation party, which was forced out by Princess Min's faction, could restore itself to power — pages 71 and 72 of Japanese diplomatic document volume 8.

In 1875, and without any advanced notice that they would perpetrate a military provocation, Japan infiltrated the pirate ship Unyangho into the (Toririm) artillery fort south of Kanghwa Island, the gateway to Seoul. The soldiers of the (Toririm) artillery fort immediately defended themselves. The Unyangho destroyed the artillery fort, then attacked [word indistinct] and killed more than 600 innocent civilians. It was in the Kanghwa Island Treaty that Japan shuffled the blame of the Unyangho incident off onto Korea and attempted to march along its road of aggression in order to conclude a trade treaty. For this purpose, the Japanese Government issued the brigandish directive that force of arms should be used if the Koreans refuse to conclude the treaty — page 52 of Volume 3 of the history of Japanese militarist aggression against Korea published in 1975 by the Printing House of the DPRK Academy of Social Sciences.

According to this, the Japanese imperialists infiltrated into Kanghwa Island with six naval ships and some 600 aggression troops, then performed a demonstration of arms to threaten Korea in the hopes of fabricating the Kanghwa Treaty. Using this, the Japanese imperialists began to embark on the road of aggression against Korea.

The Japanese imperialists' illegal aggression against and occupation of Korea, as well as its infringement of Korea's national sovereignty, became more unscrupulous with the 1894 Kabo peasant war and the Qing-Japan War. When the Kabo peasant war broke out, the Japanese aggressors dispatched 450 marines to Inchon on 9 June on the pretext of protecting Japanese residents in Korea, then dispatched as many as 10,000 aggression troops to Korea by the end of June.

It was about this time when that the notorious Imperial headquarters, the supreme command for the Japanese imperialists' war of aggression, was established.

On the day the Japanese cabinet decided to dispatch military troops to Korea, Kawagami, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Japanese Army, stated: Military strength under Li Hongzhang is said to be 40,000, and assuming that 30,000 of these troops can be dispatched to Korea, we can send our troops to cope with them. If we attempt to fight a battle with them in the area around Pyongyang and smash them then it will not be so difficult for us to dominate the whole area of Korea. Thus, Kawagami openly revealed his wild ambition for aggression. Page 126 of Army General Kawagami's memoirs.

With the achievement of (?peace) following the (?ceasefire) between the old Korean Government and the peasant army on 11 June, Japan's excuse for dispatching its troops to Korea completely disappeared. The Korean Government called for the two states of Qing and Japan to withdraw their troops.

Such being the situation, the Japanese imperialists dispatched some 5,000 military troops to Korea to force the Korean Government to carry out its reform and threatened the Korean Government by surrounding Seoul.

The remarks by Japanese Foreign Minister (Mutsui) — who said that from the beginning I thought that the plan of reform in the Government in Korea had no meaning other than our political (?attempt), and frankly speaking, our plan for reform in the Government in Korea was intended to expand our influence under the pretext of reform in the Government in Korea, to make Korea our protectorate, and, thus, to place it under our control — vividly showed that the plan for reform in government was nothing but Japan's excuse for aggression against Korea. Page 47 and 48 of [word indistinct].

When the Korean Government demanded that Japan withdraw the plan of reform of the Government in Korea and the Japanese aggression forces, the Japanese imperialists mobilized one regiment on the dawn of 23 July and broke into the main gate of the palace with axes and explosives. They then killed guards and took the Korean king and queen as hostages in broad daylight and kidnapped Taewongun to place him in power. Thus, they toppled and changed the Korean Government in actuality.

The fact that this incident had been thoroughly and cautiously planned by the Japanese Government and military and that Japanese Minister (Ottori) had taken a leading role in it was proven by historical records discovered in Japan last year. Magazines (Mitsuzu) June 1994 issue and AKAHATA 21 July 1994.

Needless to say, the so-called Korea-Japan [words indistinct] signed on 20 August and the Korea-Japan Treaty of Alliance signed on 26 August were fabricated to cover up the truth of this illegal incident and to invent an excuse for the Qing-Japan war. This was a violent infringement of the sovereignty of old Korea and an unprecedented challenge to international law and justice.

Nevertheless, the Japanese imperialists expanded their aggression and more violently infringed upon the state sovereignty of Korea. An example of this was the murder of Queen Min in 1895. This incident — in which the Japanese imperialists broke into the Korean palace in broad daylight, killed the queen, stripped her naked, then burned her and threw her remains into a lake — was not only the utmost infringement of the state sovereignty of old Korea, but was also an unbearable insult to the Korean people and mankind. It was also an criminal act unprecedented in history.

Miura, Japanese minister in Seoul, who was the ringleader of this plot, stated that with this, Korea has finally become the possession of Japan. Now, I am free from worry.

These absurd remarks vividly prove that this incident was directly linked to the Japanese Government's policy of aggression against Korea.

Furthermore, the fact that even after coming out of the palace wielding their blood-stained swords, the Japanese imperialists proceeded in front of foreigners and Seoul citizens and attempted to shift the crime off onto Taewongun, whom they forcibly kidnapped and took to the spot of the incident, vividly reveals Japan's inherent shamelessness and cunningness.

It is not difficult to guess the violence and threats that the Japanese imperialists — who had mercilessly murdered the queen of a country — perpetrated on the king of the state and state ministers when they fabricated the documents to legalize their occupation of Korea, such as the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty.

As the Japanese imperialists began to have serious confrontations with Czarist Russia over control over Korea after the Sino-Japanese war, they rigorously pushed ahead with war preparations. At the same time, they conspired to conclude a secret treaty in order to make Korea appear to be externally neutral, but not in reality, and to find an excuse for a forcible occupation of Korea.

However, their maneuvers ended in failure because King Kojong turned down the appeal of Yi Chi-yong and Yi Kun-taek, whom the Japanese imperialists menaced and bought over to conclude a Korean-Japanese treaty, because their appeal was harmful to independence. Pages 336-337, Book No. 1, Volume 37, Japanese diplomatic documents.

What overturned the situation was the Russian-Japanese war that broke out with the illegal landing in Inchon of the Japanese imperialists on 8 February 1904 and a preemptive attack on the Russian fleet.

Japanese aggressive troops deployed in areas between Seoul and Yalu River numbered as many as 100,000, and Korea's territory was reduced to a battlefield of war between Russia and Japan and to a land militarily occupied by the Japanese imperialists.

Amid this situation, the Japanese imperialists fabricated a Korean-(?Russia) protocol and a Korean-Japanese treaty and used them as a pretext for aggression and military occupation. Thus, they entered into the stage to realize direct domination of Korea's domestic affairs.

Regarding the illegality of the documents, King Kojong sent messages to the Governments of Russia and France on 24 July 1905 through (Martel), a French missionary, exposing that he was practically encircled and national affairs were suppressed, and that he did not take part in nor was he aware of international treaties and agreements concluded between Korea and Japan after the Russian-Japanese war began. Page 661, Book 1, Volume 38, Japanese diplomatic documents, 1958.

The Japanese imperialists opened the door of monopoly occupation of and domination over Korea through the Russian-Japanese war. They totally occupied Korea by force in 1905 and left inexpressible and indelible wounds on our people for the 41 years following that time.

No matter how much time may pass, the history of crimes by the Japanese imperialists in their aggressive occupation of Korea will never be deleted.

2. Old treaties designed to conceal aggression and military occupation are fraudulent, deceitful, illegal, and invalid documents.

The criminal nature of the Japanese imperialists' aggression and occupation of Korea has been officially recognized by international communities. Nevertheless, the incumbent Japanese Government claimed that old treaties, including the Korean-Japanese annexation treaty, were concluded and effectuated lawfully. Thus, they distorted history and beautified their aggression.

Under this condition, we cannot but again discuss the illegality and invalidity of the old treaties from a historical and unlawful perspective. In a word, the Ulsa Five-point Treaty, the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty and other old treaties that Japan claims it concluded with Korea lawfully were all sheets of paper faked through personal threat and blackmail, seizure of seals, forgeries, and other deceptions and swindles.

1) Threat and extortion with guns and bayonets are illegal.

The Japanese Government claims that Korea was annexed in accordance with the Korean-Japanese annexation treaty. However, what worked as a decisive factor for Japan to conceal and legalize its aggression on Korea were the Ulsa Five-point Treaty and the Chongmi Seven-point Treaty. Through these treaties, Japan introduced a ruling organization called the General Rule and Supervision Agency [tonggambu] to Korea and enacted a law called [word indistinct] for the first time in Korea.

3. Forcing Korea to accept the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty.

The Japanese imperialists thought that the fabrication of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty would encounter strong opposition from the people and King Kojong of Korea. So, they designated early November 1905 as the deadline for signing the treaty from the beginning and worked out a brigandish plan to introduce aggression forces into Seoul and threaten the Korean king and government and to unilaterally declare the establishment of protection rights as the last resort if the treaty was not assented to. Pages 6-10 "Historic Data on Annexation of Korea (1)" 1986, page 155 "Diary of Takashi Hara," Volume 2.

On 16 November 1905, Hayashi Kosuke, Japanese charge d'affaires to old Korea, told Ito Hirobumi that he will bring ministers of old Korea to the Japanese legation to hold a conference.

If a meeting in the royal presence is inevitable because no conclusion is reached during this conference, it is clear that some ministers will run away on their way to the Royal Palace. Therefore, he has to ask Hasegawa to watch the ministers by posting the military police around them under the pretext of being bodyguards. If the treaty is to be concluded, one or two cabinet members may commit suicide, thus causing his worry. (pages 223-224 "I Speak on My Life of 70 Years" by Hayashi Konsuke)

This alone shows how merciless was the personal and mental menace and repression that the Japanese imperialist attempted to perpetrate against the king and ministers.

Under this plan, the Japanese imperialists brought the Japanese forces into Seoul. On the morning of 17 November, the Japanese troops that were deployed in various areas near the Han River, Tongjakjin, Mapo, Sojang and Yanghwajin and other areas came to Seoul.

Seven to eight hundred light cavalries, 4,000 to 5,000 artillery men, and 20,000 to 30,000 infantrymen were mobilized and deployed everywhere. As a result, our people could not freely travel even for a moment, and the inside and outside of the Royal Palace were heavily surrounded. They intimidated Korea's high- and low-level officials entering and leaving the Palace. This was revealed by Korea history on [word indistinct]. (page 35, No.41 The Korea Research, data on Ulsa Five-Point Treaty by Kum Pyong-tong)

On 17 and 18 November, the Japanese imperialists deployed troops in Oesondae, Namsan, Seoul, and carried out an exercise of light cavalry regiment in the Chongno area in front of the Royal Palace by mobilizing one infantry battalion and a artillery company, thus threatening the people. (Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun, 25 November 1905)

On the evening of 17 November, Ito Hirobumi, with the purpose of immediately giving orders in case of emergency, brought Hasegawa, commander of the Japanese forces in Korea; Kato, commander of the military police, and other infantry, cavalry, military police and civilian policemen, to the palace, and encircled the palace, thus threatening and menacing..

This act was prompted by the concern over the possibility of losing the partner of negotiations with the overall resignation of old Korea's cabinet members and of blocking the [word indistinct] of the treaty with the old Korean Government's refusal to hold discussions. Thus, the old Korean Government might possibly put forward an appeal to the world's public opinion. This being the case, the Japanese imperialists might have concluded that the delay in their plan was not favorable. (page 477, Book 1, Volume 38, Japanese diplomatic Document, 1958)

The direct threat and oppression perpetrated by the Japanese imperialists against King Kojong and the ministers of old Korea in order to fabricate the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty were the zenith of their illegal act which is unprecedented in history of the world.

On 15 November, Ito met King Kojong and demanded that he transfer the diplomatic right of Korea to the Japanese Government. Ito also told the king that the draft is a steadfast will of the imperialist government, that if he refuses, he will have to be ready for more unfavorable results and that talking about the need to watch the opinions of ordinary people is an attempt to protest against the Japan's proposal by agitating them, saying Your Majesty would bear heavy responsibility for it. (page 25 "Historic Data on Annexation of Korea (1)")

On 17 November, Ito consistently (?controlled) the conference of ministers of old Korea, going counter to his duty as (?councilor) to old Korea's royal house, and liberally made decisions and conclusions. As Minister of State Affairs Han Kyu-sol opposed, Ito said that he carries out his duty by upholding His Excellency Emperor and that he will not remain an onlooker, thus menacing and threatening the ministers. (page 41-48, "Korea's General Historic Data (1)")

(Nishiyo Kogyo), a subordinate of Ito, wrote about the situation at that time as follows:

On 17 November, Ito invited Korean ministers to the Japanese Legation for the first time for discussions. However, no conclusion was easily made. Thus, the charge d'affaires, together with the ministers, went to (?the Royal Palace) and a meeting with the royal presence was held.

Marquis Ito and General Hasegawa, who were anxiously looking forward to hearing a good news in the Taegwanjong, were not able to be patient any longer, and unhesitatingly went into the conference room with a number of military police and their commanders and conducted an intelligence test for each minister by pushing aside Hayashi, the charge d'affaires who was a plenipotentiary, and by [word indistinct] with pencils.

He said: "Even if you think and think again, you will not be able to make any decision. I will ask your opinion one by one whether you agree or disagree. Please answer my question clearly. What is your opinion, you, the Minister of State Affairs?" To this, Minister of State Affairs Han Kyu-sol said that he absolutely opposes.

Really? — Marquis Ito responded and marked an x beside the name of Han Kyu-sol on the list. Next, it was Foreign Minister Pak Chae-sun's turn. As he did not absolutely oppose it, his name was marked with o. Then, State Minister Han began to cry out and was finally taken to an annex room. At that time, looking at the other people there, Marquis Ito loudly ordered him to be killed unless he dampened his insistence.

By the way, until the moment of signing the treaty, State Minister Han did not appear. When a person questioned this, Marquis Ito blared that he might be killed, keeping his countenance. Among those who were present at the meeting, there were a few ministers who could speak Japanese. They conveyed Marquis Ito's remark to their colleagues in Korean as soon as he made it, and the discussions continued to conclusion without further problems. "Undisclosed History of the Later Days of the Korean Empire," (Nishiyo Kogyo).

(McKelly), who stayed in Korea from 1904 to 1907 as a correspondent of London's DAILY MAIL, exposed that the Japanese imperialists' threats, coercion, and military demonstration made Korean ministers recall the situation following 1895 when the Japanese Army murdered Queen Min; and that State Minister Han Kyu-sol was confined in an annex room and was threatened by a secretary of the Japanese minister's office that he would be killed, and that even Ito forcibly called on Han Kyu-sol to agree to the treaty. Page 78-83, "Struggle of Loyal Troops to Anti-Japanese Struggle for Independence," (McKelly), 1972.

In a political report to Germany dated 20 December 1905, (Von Valder), who was a German diplomat in Korea when the Ulsa Five-point Treaty was fabricated, pointed out: The documents Japan is going to make public have been concluded completely by coercion.

This is the truth of the two treaties alleged by Japan to have been concluded at the volition of both sides, based on an equal position.

Coercion Into Signing the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty and the Forced Abdication of King Kojong.

The fabrication of the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty cannot be mentioned without the incident of the Japanese imperialists' coercive ouster of Kojong by mobilizing armed forces. When the incident concerning the dispatch of secret envoys to The Hague took place, the Japanese imperialists held a meeting on King Kojong's dispatch of secret envoys to The Hague and lost no time in deciding on the so-called policy of (?controlling) Korea to hold sway in Korean political affairs, seizing a golden opportunity. The policy making was committed to Marquis Ito's care. Page 455, Chapter 1, Volume No. 40, Japanese diplomatic documents.

The Japanese imperialists virtually deprived the Korean empire of its right over domestic affairs after its militarily occupation and establishment of a residency-general. However, they specified again the established fact of the Japanese aggressive forces' deprivation of the Korean empire's right over domestic affairs to justify their illegal acts and prepare momentum for complete occupation of Korea.

The policy of (?controlling) Korea included two methods. One was restricting the Korean king's rights and strengthening control over him. The other was completely occupying Korea by ousting Kojong and succeeding disabled Sunjong to the throne. According to this policy, Ito called on Kojong on 3 July 1907, showed him the data Japan had collected concerning the dispatch of special envoys to The Hague, and threatened: Your attempt to reject Japan's right to protect Korea in this dangerous way means an open declaration of war against Japan. Your excellency will be entirely held responsible for this. Page 406, "History of Japanese Militarists' Invasion of Korea," DPRK Social Science Publishing House, 1975.

The Japanese imperialists dispatched its foreign minister to Korea and let him command the operations to forcibly expel Kojong. They also had Ito and pro-Japanese puppets force Kojong to apologize to the Japanese emperor and to abdicate the crown, threatening Kojong's life at every moment. In light of the infringement upon Korean sovereignty and the cruel atrocities Japan had conducted until then, it was no accident that the secret envoys issued a formal statement voicing concern about the situation, in which it was difficult for them to officially and freely release the truth because King Kojong, who was seized by Japanese rascals, might be in personal danger. (PRIE DELA CONTERANCE DELATE) dated 7 July 1907 published in Hague, Netherlands.

Under the situation, Kojong said on the 19th that he would designate Sunjong as the acting emperor, but refused to abdicate the throne. To transform the decision on the acting emperor, which cannot be recognized as an abdication of the throne, into a solid abdication, the Japanese imperialists violated the well-known Choson custom that a new king cannot be officially inaugurated when the former king is alive and govern state affairs as the acting emperor, and staged an act of holding a ritual to terminate the emperor's rights on the 20th as a ceremony of abdication. To oppress the people's resistance, a Japanese infantry regiment seized the palace on the 19th, and an artillery brigade was deployed to Mt. Nam, taking a position advantageous to fire at the citizens. Martial law was also declared. Of course, Kojong or Sunjong was not a part of this, nor was the minister of internal affairs, whose consent was required by laws and precedents to enforce martial law. The puppet Yi Wan-yong took part in the declaration of martial law, calling himself the acting minister of internal affairs. The throne was not officially abdicated to Sunjong despite the acts of the Japanese imperialists, Yi Wan-yong, and pro-Japanese forces. It was on 2 August when the name of the era was changed from Kojong's Kwangmu to Sunjong's Yunghui. Sunjong's enthronement ceremony was held on 27 August.

In concurrence with Sunjong's inauguration on 27 August 1907, the ruthless Japanese imperialists placed Kojong under house arrest in Kyongun Palace. Following the forced step down of Kojong, who was entitled to sign any treaty, the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty was unilaterally forged on 24 July without the approval of the new emperor Sunjong. This was the outline of the fabrication of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty and the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty, which had been forged under the threat and coercion of rifles and swords.

The Unlawfulness of the Threat and Coercion of the Japanese Imperialists

Nonetheless, the Japanese Government repeatedly raved that the Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty and other former treaties were signed with the full opinion and equal position of the two parties, as evidenced by the remarks of Prime Minister Sato at the (Samyon) meeting held on 19 November 1965; and the remarks of Hasegawa, director of Asia of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, at the Japanese House of Councillors Foreign Relations Committee meeting on 28 March 1989.

It is indisputable that coercion and threat by armed forces can never be legitimate. Originally, (?the background of a document) is a basic condition that defines the validity of a treaty, and the principle of equality is a prerequisite for the signing of a treaty. The signatories should be given freedom of choice, which should not be influenced by threat or blackmail. The Ulsa Five-Point Treaty, which the Japanese imperialists forced the king and ministers of old Korea to sign, was forcibly signed by state representatives. The fact that the treaty was absolutely invalid was objectively proven at the point of fabrication. A renowned French international jurist (Francis Leigh) pointed out in his thesis published in 1906 that the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was originally unlawful and invalid because Ito Hirobumi and Hayashi Konsuke forced the Choson emperor and ministers to sign the treaty, mobilizing Japanese forces. Volume 13 of INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC LAW published in 1906.

Quoting (Francis Leigh's) thesis, the U.S. International Law Society also pointed out in the Harvard research draft on treaty law published in 1935 that the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was originally unlawful and invalid. U.S. INTERNATIONAL LAW periodical published in 1935.

A special report given at the 15th conference of the UN International Law Committee held in 1963 to evaluate a draft on treaty law, cited the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty signed in 1905 as an example of personally imposing coercion and threat on individuals to obtain signature, approval, recognition, or assent, and asserted that consent obtained through such coercion is absolutely invalid. Page 197 of the UN International Law Committee Annual Report published in 1963.

When the Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty was fabricated, (Gurachi Taechikichi), director of political affairs of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, said that when coercion, assault, and threat is imposed on a signatory to a treaty, the signatory's opinion should not be regarded genuine, and consequently, the treaty is never valid. Page 197 of the lecture transcript of the international public law; fourth class of the Japanese Law School in 1899.

In light of this fact alone, one cannot deny that the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was not concluded from the beginning. Nevertheless, regarding the UN International Law Committee's remark in 1963, a Foreign Ministry director in charge of treaties boldly insisted at the Japanese Diet on 23 March 1993 that the international community unanimously does not think the 1905 treaty is invalid and that the content of the treaty was omitted from the UN Committee's final report released in 1966. Page 69, "Was the 1905 Protectorate Treaty Between Korea and Japan Concluded?" edited by the International Human Rights Institute, 1993.

Who can say Japan's attitude of reflecting the past is shown in this situation? In a meeting of the UN International Law Committee held in 1963, no one put forth a negative opinion on the remark in the committee's final report on the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty. The report was submitted to the UN general meeting held that year.

Saying as if the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was not included in the 1966 final report because of the loss of the creditability of the officials involved in signing the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty cannot but be regarded as a deceptive trick aimed at distorting the fact and covering up their illegal acts. At last, Japan's attitude of beautifying its history of aggression, far from admitting it, was revealed to the ordinary people as an incoherent insistence.

2) Mere scraps of paper that did not go through legal procedures; no power of attorney and its fabrication.

The signers of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty and of the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty did not have a power of attorney. At the Japanese Diet on 23 March 1993, the Foreign Ministry director in charge of treaties said: As I understand, at the time the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was fabricated, a decision was made to entrust Minister Hayashi with signing the treaty. However, a power of attorney has not yet been found.

He insisted that since the prime minister, foreign minister, ambassadors, and ministers were to represent the country, they did not have to submit a power of attorney. Page 75, "Was the 1905 Protectorate Treaty Between Korea and Japan Concluded?" edited by the International Human Rights Institute, 1993.

A power of attorney is a certificate that entrusts a person or organization with signing a treaty. Accordingly, if a person does not have a power of attorney, the person is not qualified to sign a treaty.

Prior to the preparation of a (?provisional agreement) on the law on treaties, it was a dominant tenet that individuals other than the top leader of a country must pass inspection by submitting a power of attorney right before or after negotiations on the conclusion of a treaty.

Even the Dictionary on the History of Japanese Diplomacy published in 1986 by the Diplomatic Data Office of the Japanese Foreign Ministry pointed out that in the past prior to the preparation of the (?provisional agreement) on the law on treaties, diplomats of both sides submitted powers of attorney, without exception, before negotiations on a treaty.

Article 18 of [word indistinct] of the Korean empire enacted and promulgated in 1894 stipulates that the king shall personally sign and stamp the royal seal on powers of attorney for officials to be dispatched to foreign countries to sign an intergovernmental treaty. Pictorial record dated 21 November 1931, Volume No. 32, "Authentic History of Kojong."

As shown by these records, powers of attorney were imperative in signing a treaty. Accordingly, Japan's insistence that the government leader, the foreign minister, ambassadors, and ministers of a country can represent the country without powers of attorney is nothing but a ruse aimed at justifying the fabrication of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty.

In light of historic facts, the Japanese imperialists were aware of the tenet but failed to create a power of attorney. This is well shown by the power of attorney for the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty preserved in Kyujanggak [academic research institute] of Seoul National University, which the Japanese imperialists attempted to fabricate but failed because they could not get the signature of either King Kojong or Prince Sunjong.

An official of the Office of Japanese Diplomatic History recognized that the Office preserves each document concerning a treaty, such as the original document of the treaty and the act of ratification, in an envelope, and that if a document of a treaty is not located in the office, no such treaty exists.

The Japanese Government's claim that they could not locate Hayashi's letter of attorney simply reveals that the letter of attorney never existed. Therefore, this means that Hayashi and Pak, who did not receive full authority to sign the treaty, exchanged a private document between individuals.

The lack of ratification.

Ratification is the state's final expression of approval of being bound by a treaty. However, the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty and the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty were not ratified by Emperor Kojong, the supreme sovereign person of the old Korea. The so-called Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty did not receive King Sunjong's ratification either.

In those days, under the traditional international law, the ratification system was in practice to examine whether the signing person acted properly within his authority, to review the entire contents of the treaty in light of the Constitution, and to finalize the approval of being bound by the treaty. Therefore, it was an international law requirement in those days that for a treaty to become valid, it should be ratified by the sovereign person.

Moreover, ratification was also the requirement of the domestic law legally defined by the old Korea, the state of absolute monarchy, and Japan, the state ruled by the emperor.

Article 9 of the Korean Constitution enacted in 1899 stipulates that the emperor signs all treaties. Article 18 of the regulations on official letter enforced effective from 1894 stipulates that the emperor himself signs the ratification of a treaty and then signs it with the royal seal. (true record 39 of Emperor Kojong, 17 August 3d year of Kwangmu, true record 32, 21 November 31st year of [word indistinct])

Article 4 of the Japanese Imperial Constitution stipulates that the emperor controls the sovereignty power as the leader of the country, and Article 13 notes that the emperor signs all treaties. Nevertheless, the treaties bureau chief of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, testifying on the lack of ratification of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty and the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty at the Diet on 23 March 1993, said that the Korean side cannot claim the treaties to be invalid in view of the international law because of the domestic situation of the Korean side.

As for the domestic law, it was the view of the law of custom prevailing in those days that when a treaty is signed in clear breach of the regulations of fundamental importance in the domestic law, it is considered invalid. It is a nonsensical, absurd claim that the treaty, which is not an ordinary relief or trade treaty but deprives a country of its right of diplomacy and domestic government, does not require the country's sovereign person.

In the case of old Korea, when we reviewed major treaties it signed with other countries, we found that nearly all treaties, except that with Japan, were ratified. In the case of Japan, too, the major trade, peace, fishing port, economic, and court trial treaties Japan signed with other countries from 1860 to 1908, such as the Shimonoseki Peace Treaty, were mostly ratified. The so-called protection treaty, which the European colonialists signed with Asian and African countries, were ratified in most cases for the sake of formality.

Only the Japanese aggressors said that ratification was not necessary. This was not because Japan was unaware of the need for ratification but because Japan could not obtain ratification. The Japanese imperialists were aware that the emperor's approval, signature, and affixing with the royal seal were essential to the signing of the treaty.

Ito, who met Emperor Kojong on 15 November 1905, stressed the supreme right of the emperor, stating "Your Majesty has the supreme power controlling everything," in response to the emperor's remark "I cannot make the decision arbitrarily." (Diplomatic News Bulletin, No. 98, Vol. 9 page 31, 1906)

It was an expression of a similar nature that when the Hague secret emissary incident occurred on 17 July 1907, Japan's stooges, including Yi Wan-yong, went to Emperor Kojong and pressed him to affix his seal on the treaty of 17 November 1905. (HWANGSONG SINMUN 19 July 1907)

However, Kojong rejected the approval and ratification of the treaty to the end. The criminal nature is found in the fact that despite the lack of approval, signature, and affixing of the royal seal by Kojong, the sovereign person, they unilaterally proclaimed as if the treaty had been signed.

3) Stealing of the seal and forging of the royal order.

The Japanese imperialists' act of forging the treaty is well revealed by their stealing of the seal of old Korea's foreign minister and the emperor's royal seal and forging the royal order by forging the emperor's signature.

Plundering of the foreign minister's seal and the king's royal seal.

The Japanese imperialists planned in advanced to plunder the seal of the foreign minister of old Korea in order to fabricate the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty. On 16 November 1905, Japanese Minister Hayashi told Ito: It seems that the country's seal is carefully preserved. Even the state minister does not keep it. There is a particular official designated to preserve it. So, it is necessary to send a person to the Foreign Ministry early in the morning to watch the official who preserves the seal. Pages 223-230, "I Speak Out On My 70-Year Life," Hayashi Konsuke.

[Name of a publication indistinct] pointed out: [name indistinct] sent (Mayuma Kosachu), a gangster of the Japanese legation, and assistant diplomat (Numano) to the Foreign Ministry to demand the seal under the ruse of a special order. Many Japanese soldiers surrounded the Foreign Ministry and helped grab the seal. Secretary of the Japanese legation (Kokobu Shotaro), who had been waiting in front of the gate of the building, took the seal, entered the meeting room, and finally stamped the document with it. Page 8, Volume No. 9, "A Fact-Finding Team's Data on the 1905 Korea Protectorate Treaty and the Forcible Taking of Koreans."

The evening paper CHINA GAZETTE dated 23 November 1905 reported from Seoul: The Japanese imperialists dispatched military police to the foreign minister's residence; assistant diplomat (Numano) snatched the minister's seal at 0100 on 18 November and after a wrangling, the Japanese plenipotentiaries stamped the treaty with the seal at their convenience and declared the conclusion of the treaty on the same morning. The treaty was indeed concluded in a fraudulent way. Part 1, Volume No. 38, Japanese diplomatic documents.

Von Saldern, a German diplomat in Seoul, in a political report dated on 20 November 1905 to the president of the German Empire wrote: The Korean Palace is crawling with Japanese soldiers and military police. Japanese officials stamped the treaty with some Korean ministers' seals through coercion.

Secret envoys in The Hague filed a complaint against Ito Hirobumi for stamping the treaty with the Foreign Ministry seal. (PRIE DELA CONTERANCE DELATE) dated 9 July 1907.

These facts are vivid evidence proving that the Japanese aggressors deprived the foreign minister of his seal and used it on their own volition. This is not all of the brigandish acts committed by the Japanese imperialists.

The Japanese imperialists committed the illegal act of plundering even the royal seal used by King Kojong. In his personal letter to the German emperor through German Minister (Hinter) in Beijing in February 1914, Kojong said: The Japanese imperialists deprived me of my position and the royal seal. As the great seal is in their hands, I cannot help but use an ordinary seal of mine to stamp this letter.

The great seal of the Korean empire was originally preserved by the Ministry of State Affairs for systematic reasons. It is necessary to review the fact that Japanese imperialists arrested the state minister of old Korea and the official in charge of preserving the great seal at dawn on 22 July 1907 in connection with the robbery of the great seal mentioned by King Kojong.

The revised law on using the royal seal drafted by the Japanese imperialists was passed on 6 August 1907 by writing the articles of the law on a sheet of paper that was already stamped with the royal seal. This proves that the Japanese imperialists had acquired the royal seal by then.

When reviewing the measures concerning the coercive dissolution of the Korean Army — which was announced following the Japanese imperialists' robbery of the seal of the foreign minister of old Korea, the coercive abdication of the king, and the arrest of the state minister and the official in charge of preserving the great seal — and the incident concerning the false royal order of the Japanese imperialists in the same year, it becomes clear that the 22 July arrest of the official in charge of the great seal is connected with the robbery of the great seal.

The forged signature of King Kojong.

Being in keen need to hold sway in old Korea's right to sign documents following the incident concerning the secret envoys to The Hague, Japanese imperialists changed the way of drafting and approving the text of supplementary rules, laws, and royal decrees of old Korea into the Japanese style on 18 November 1907, enabling them to forge laws and regulations at their own volition.

Until then, old Korea had gone through the following procedures to draft and authorize laws and decrees: After deciding on the serial number, title, and article of each law and royal decree and writing down the date of declaration; the law was registered by stamping it with the royal emblem, and lastly, the law was authorized by stamping it with the royal seal.

The royal emblem is a royal seal used by those officials who are in charge to stamp documents upon the king's instruction. Japan's approves a law by writing down the date, month, and year first; by writing down the name of the emperor; by stamping the copy with the royal seal; and by writing the serial number and title of the law at the end. This is proven by the fact that when fabricating the Kanghwa Island Treaty, the Japanese imperialists asked old Korea to write down the name of the emperor of old Korea. Under this practice, the Japanese imperialists fabricated 60 important laws and decrees in the two months from 18 November 1907 to 18 January 1908.

In one month, November 1907, the Japanese imperialists fabricated almost 50 decrees, including a bills to reform the Home Ministry and the Justice Ministry, by forging the emperor's signature. (The Chronicles of Emperor Sunjong, Book I, 4-30 December, the first year of the emperor's reign)

The Documents Department of the Residency-General Secretariat, established after signing the Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty in 1907, played an important role in these fabrications. This graphically proves the Japanese imperialists' organized and systematic infringement on the sovereignty of old Korea.

The aggressors took away the royal seal and other official seals, and freely stamped important official documents with them, forging the signature of the emperor, the promulgator of laws and decrees. This shows that the laws and decrees are null and void, and that their act is a crime for which they should stand before the court of history.

4) The Emperor's Declaration That They Were Null and Void

The declaration of the emperor, the sovereign of old Korea and the person with the right to sign treaties, that the Japanese imperialists' illegal acts and their treaties were null and void is proof that the old treaties were illegal in the first place. King Kojong was opposed to the signing of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty in the first place, and sent a cable to his special emissary, Hullbert, who traveled to Washington on 26 November 1905, right after the Japanese imperialists had fabricated the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty. The cable states: This treaty was forced with threats and custody. Therefore, I declare it is null and void. I have never approved of it and have no intention of doing so. Tell it to the U.S. Government. (The Book to the March First Independence Movement from the Volunteers Struggle. P.87. Mackenzie published in Japanese in 1972)

King Kojong sent a personal letter dated 19 Japanese 1906 to the heads of states of the United States, Russia, Germany, and France. In the letter, he states: I did not accept this treaty from the very beginning, did not stamp it with the royal seal, was opposed to Japan's promulgation of it, and did not transfer the right to (?diplomacy) to a foreign country. The forcibly-signed treaty on the right to diplomacy is baseless. I did not approve of the transfer of my right top conduct domestic affairs, of the stationing of a residency-general, and of foreigners exercising the right to [word indistinct]. (TAEHAN MAEIL SINBO, 16 Japanese 1907)

In his personal letter to the heads of state of nine countries— including the United States, Great Britain, Russia, and Germany— King Kojong states: The Ulsa Five-Point Treaty is illegal for the following reasons. First, the cabinet ministers signed the treaty under threats and coercion. Second, I have not transferred to the cabinet the right to sign documents. Third, the cabinet meeting where the document was reportedly signed is, of course, illegal in that the Japanese themselves convened it. I will file a suit at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

From the fact that the emperor's letter saying that the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty was illegal and null and void was stamped with the royal seal, and that the so-called original copy of the treaty was stamped with no royal seal, one can determine whether the Ulsa Five- Point Treaty is genuine.

Ito, who came to Seoul under the pretext of expressing condolences to the Korean imperial household, presided over a meeting of ministers of a foreign country [old Korea] and revised the draft of the treaty at random. There are numerous other illegal acts.

Old Korea, under the Japanese imperialists' military occupation, was completely deprived of its right to diplomacy and to conduct its home affairs, and was denied its sovereignty as a result.

The fact that old Korea had no sovereignty means it had no capacity to sign a treaty. This means the signing of what the Japanese Government calls the Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty does not make any sense because the signatory, which signed the treaty with Japan, did not exist under international law.

As seen above, the occupation and rule of Korea, which Japan claims was legal in view of the treaty, was illegal and cannot be justified under any circumstances.

The Japanese imperialists' illegal aggression and occupation of Korea, and their brutal policy of obliterating the nation, gave rise to the Korean people's popular anti-Japanese struggle, which includes the struggle of righteous armies [volunteer forces for national independence that emerged in the later years of the Choson Dynasty] and the 1 March Independence Movement.

Because of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song organized and led, the Korean people removed the Japanese imperialist aggressors and won a brilliant victory in the just war to win the country's independence and national sovereignty.

The Japanese imperialists' occupation of Korea was an armed invasion and occupation, a plundering of its sovereignty; the Japanese imperialists' defeat was a just consequence of their criminal aggression against Korea and other Asian countries.

There were no lawful acts in previous Korea-Japan relations, only the Japanese imperialists' brigandish aggression and occupation, and their fraudulent acts and fabrications designed to cover them up.

3. Recognizing and Liquidating Its Past Is Japan's Historic Responsibility

The Japanese imperialists' aggression against Korea, their 41 year-long military occupation of Korea, and their policies of enslavement and national obliteration caused massive human, material, and mental damage to the Korean people; the murder of more than 1 million Koreans; the coercive drafting of some six million Koreans; and the sexual servitude by the Japanese Army of upwards of 200,000 Korean women. Their aftereffects have not yet been cleared away. Their aggression and occupation of Korea was the first step toward their aggression of Asia and the world in general.

Fifty years have passed since the end of the Second World War, and since then many international laws have described aggression as illegal. However, Japan's outlook on history and its viewpoint on political and moral values has remained unchanged. This is well shown by the absurd remarks by leading politicians in Japan.

Kuboda, a Japanese senior representative to the ROK-Japan talks, said in 1953: Japan's rule over Korea favored Korea in a sense. The reference by the Cairo Declaration to the enslaved Korean people was an expression of wartime hysteria. ("Examples of Absurd Remarks," (Koju Takasaki), pp 223-224)

Reijo Sawada, a Japanese senior representative to the ROK-Japan talks, said in 1958: Both the Japan-China War and the Japan-Russian War were wars in which Japan drove those forces out beyond the Yalu River that threatened Japan by advancing into the Korean peninsula. If we do not stand up for the third time and move the 38th Parallel beyond the Yalu River, we will lose face for our predecessors. This is the goal of Japanese diplomacy. (Book "Essence of ROK-Japan talks," in Japanese, 1963)

In this way, he openly expressed his ambition for reinvasion.

Esusaburo Shiina, the foreign minister in the Sato Cabinet, in his book published in 1963 "Assimilation and Politics," writes: Japan conquered Taiwan and annexed Korea to defend Asia from the West European imperialists' teeth and to maintain Japanese independence. If one calls Japan's fulfillment of the dream of defeating five enemies in Manchuria an act of Japanese imperialism, it will be an honorable imperialism. ("Examples of Absurd Remarks," (Koju Takasaki), p 258)

Junichi Takahashi, a Japanese senior representative to the ROK-Japan talks, said in January 1965: There is talk that Japan should apologize for its rule over Korea. Japan cannot do so. Japan certainly ruled Korea. However, it tried to do some good. Japan's efforts broke down because of the war. If it had ruled Korea for 20 years more, it would have been better. Koreans adopted Japanese names. This was a measure to assimilate Koreans as Japanese in order to treat them like Japanese. One cannot say that was entirely bad. ("Examples of Absurd Remarks," (Koju Takasaki), p 255)

In July 1982, Mazuno, director general of the National Land Agency, stated: Even though the ROK seems to view the Japan-ROK annexation as Japanese aggression, it cannot be seen in that manner when the domestic situation in Korea at that time is taken into account. (ASAHI SHIMBUN 24 July 1982)

In August 1986, Japanese Education Minister Fuzio stated: World history is the history of aggression as well as the history of war. The historical view that Japan is the only country that committed aggression should be corrected. (KYODO News Agency in a Tokyo-dispatched story 12 August 1986)

Not only did he say that the distorted historical view should be straightened, Education Minister Fuzio said in September 1986: The Japan-Korea annexation was carried out through negotiations and an agreement between Ito Hirobumi, who represented Japan, and King Kojong, who represented Korea. In form and reality, the annexation was concluded through an agreement between the two countries. (ASAHI SHIMBUN 6 October 1986)

Last October, a Japanese cabinet member expressed his view that Japan's past deeds against Korea were lawful and not acts of aggression, and that even though acts of aggression were perpetrated against China, Japan only carried out a colonial rule on the Korean peninsula, thus making a distinction between aggression and colonization. (Japan's NHK Broadcast System 24 October 1994)

Last June, a Japanese political figure stated: Even though Japan ruled Korea for 36 years, there is no mention of colonial rule anywhere. It is the stance of the government that the annexation was legal under international law. The signatory did not assume the stance that it was a colonial rule. The annexation treaty was concluded on the grounds that this is an international treaty signed peacefully. Even if the people feel the annexation was a colonial policy, it was not colonization nor was it concluded forcibly.

Thus, he denied Japan's aggression and military occupation. (ASAHI SHIMBUN 5 June 1995)

Even Japanese premiers made absurd remarks that Japan's history of aggression should be evaluated by historians of the next generation, and that the truth of history cannot be known unless 100 years have passed.

This is Japan's so-called resolution of peace which it persistently expressed following the end of the war. The so-called resolution was reflected in the Diet and resulted in a no-war resolution containing an odd phrase about transcending the differences in the historical view, yet does not mention a word about an apology.

The attitude of Japan denying its past history of aggression only serves to reveal its militarist quality and political climate. It goes without saying that herein lies its wild ambition for aggression.

In conclusion, such claims mean Japan will take the road of aggression again when the opportunity presents itself. However, history develops only according to its unique law. If someone ignores this law, he is due to become an anachronism.

No matter how desperately Japan talks about world peace and security, and its international contribution, and as long as it does not clearly see history and attempts to beautify its past and avoid its obligation to atone for that past, it will not get by the Korean people and other Asian people.

The way out for Japan is clear. Japan should win the confidence of the Korean and other Asian people through sincere repentance, an honest apology, and adequate compensation for its past.

This is a political and moral obligation of the Japanese Government, of its statesmen, and of its people. If Japan persists in its old road in defiance of its historical obligation, it will remain a political dwarf forever.

Chongnyon Students Meet With Yi In-mo

SK2208111195 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — A home- visiting group of students of Korean University under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) staying in the socialist homeland, met on Monday [21 August] with the former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, Yi In-mo, an incarnation of faith and will, at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang.

At the meeting, Yi In-mo said that the Japan-resident Korean students and youth should work staunchly for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche and national reunification, with firm belief only in the great leader General Kim Chong-il.

The members of the group renewed their determination to prepare themselves as revolutionary soldiers intensely loyal to the great leader General Kim Chong-il, as sons and daughters of the Kim Il- song nation following the infinite loyalty to the leader and revolutionary faith shown by Yi In-mo and to have the respected general in the Plaza of Reunification by training themselves as pioneers of national reunification.

They sang the songs "Thought on the Love", "Led by You, We Will Win" and "We Pledge" and recited their own poems, hardening the will to be loyal and filial subjects believing and following only General Kim Chong-il.

Friendship, Cultural Institute Prints Bulletin

SK2208123095 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — The Peru-Korea Institute of Culture and Friendship printed a bulletin on August 10 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

The bulletin in an editorial headlined "Congratulations to the Korean People on the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation on the Country" said: The liberation of Korea was the fruition of the correct policy and wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song founded the unique chuche idea and indicated the road of the Korean revolution and led the 20-odd-year anti-Japanese revolutionary war to a victory, thus defeating the Japanese imperialists and achieving the liberation of the country.

The liberation of Korea, the first victory of the national liberation war in colonies, brought a radical change in the political map of the world.

Under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il the Korean people are now vigorously struggling to make the socialist country more powerful and prosperous, true to the behests of President Kim Il-song.

Edited in the bulletin are articles entitled "Charter for the Great Unity of the Korean Nation" and "Grand National Reunification Festival Celebrating the August 15 Liberation".

Peruvian Parties Support Reunification

SK1908224295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 19 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 19 (KCNA) — Fourteen political parties and organizations of Peru including the Communist Party of Peru (Red Motherland), the Socialist Party of Peru and the Peru-Korea Institute for Culture and Friendship published a joint statement on August 10 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Korean people's national liberation.

The statement reaffirmed the steadfast support to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity and the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

It strongly urged the United States to dissolve the "UN Forces Command" present in South Korea, withdraw its troops from there, replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and establish a new peace-keeping system on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean authorities must abrogate the "National Security Law", the main obstacle to reunification, and pull down the concrete wall, it demanded.

The statement expressed the belief that the Korean people will surely achieve the reunification by means of confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments in the '90s, under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Italian, Mongolian Groups Arrive in Pyongyang

SK2208231495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — A delegation of the Communist Re-Establishment Party of Italy led by its Mario Brunetti, a member of its leadership, and a delegation of the Federation of Peace and Friendship Organisations of Mongolia led by its chairman B. Ligden flew here Tuesday.

Kim Chong-il Arranges Party for Educators' Group

SK2308045595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 23 Aug 95

["Party Given for Chongnyon Educationists' Delegation" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il arranged a party for a delegation of educational workers of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) here on Tuesday.

Speaking at the party, Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said:

"The party table of benevolence arranged by respected General Kim Chong-il makes us deeply ruminate on the teaching of the fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il-song and general Kim Chong-il that the democratic national education of Chongnyon is the lifeline of the movement of Korean residents in Japan and that the educationists of Chongnyon are revolutionaries."

"The proud history of 40 years since the formation of Chongnyon," he noted, "is the history of the wise leadership and the noble love of the fatherly leader and the respected general." "Under the paternal love, the national education of Chongnyon today is arousing the admiration of the whole world, as a model of overseas compatriots' education in the world," he said.

Kim Su-chin, director of the educational department of Chongnyon Central Standing Committee who is heading the delegation, noted in his speech that respected General Kim Chong-il invited a big group of Chongnyon educational workers to the homeland.

He said that as the educational workers in charge of the democratic national education, they would rear the younger generations to be reliable heirs to the cause of patriotism and to be genuine talented persons of the nation, taking the historic letter sent by respected general Kim Chong-il on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon as the lifelong, basic programme and as the banner of patriotism.

"In the homeland we felt more keenly how great the honor and fortune of our country and our nation are to have respected general Kim Chong-il", he said, adding:

"The highest representation of patriotism for the Korean nation at home and abroad, at present, is to hold in high esteem general Kim Chong-il and remain intensely loyal to his leadership".

An art performance was given at the party.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Countryside

SK2308052395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the Chongpyong County, South Hamgyong Province, Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], youth shock brigade members and builders for their great achievements in the construction of reservoirs.

The county committee of the LSWYK, youth shock brigade members and builders completed the construction of reservoirs in the last six years in hearty response to the teachings given to the county by the great leader President Kim Il-song, and built six more reservoirs with the 4th Youth Day (August 28) at hand.

Comrade Kim Chong-il highly praised the great achievements of the young men and women in the county and made sure that those reservoirs were called youth reservoirs.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also sent thanks to Yang Hyong-sik, director of the Kaesong municipal statistics bureau; Song Tae-Kyu, secretary of the primary party organisation of the Kosan County, Kangwon Province, auto vehicle office; Im Chong-chol at the political department of the Chagang Provincial security bureau; Kim Son-kuk, chairman of the management board of the Sorim cooperative farm in Yomju County, North Pyongan Province; and their families for their contribution to the building of the socialist countryside.

Kim Chong-il Receives Foreign Leaders' Messages

SK2308043495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 23 Aug 95

[Spellings of names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign state and party leaders on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Among them are President of Ghana Jerry John Rawlings, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party P. N. Simonenko, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party B. Dashyondon, president of the National Executive Committee of the Left Revolutionary Union of Peru Angel Castro Lavarello and its General Secretary Tani Baler Lopera, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party Guzman Rivera Castaneda and chairman of the Peruvian Nationalist Movement of Labour Eleazar Gutarra Maravi.

The messages expressed the belief that the Korean people would realise national reunification in the 90s without fail under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il according to the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" laid down by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The messages wished Comrade Kim Chong-il a long life in good health.

Daily on People Learning From Kim Il-song

SK2208111395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 22 Aug 95

["NODONG SINMUN Calls For Learning From President Kim Il- song's Revolutionary Traits" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 22 (KCNA) — We must learn from the great revolutionary traits of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song more actively as his eternal soldiers and disciples, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

In an editorial titled "Let Us Follow the Noble Revolutionary Traits of the Great Leader" the paper says his traits are a model which all of us should always follow.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"Our leader was a great leader and a great revolutionary and man without an equal."

The editorial says:

Comrade Kim Il-song set the noblest example in invariably remaining devoted to the socialist cause in his whole life, holding high the red flag of revolution. Only when all the party members and working people have such great revolutionary traits as the fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il-song's, can they become fortresses and shields to steadfastly defend the socialist cause of chuche with strong revolutionary spirit, principle and indomitable faith.

If our people are to demonstrate their dignity as a heroic people who are effecting one upsurge after another in the revolution and construction, answering the enemy's counterrevolutionary offensive with a revolutionary offensive, they must learn from his revolutionary traits and model after him in living and struggling.

By doing so, we must prepare ourselves to be true revolutionaries firmly defending the socialist banner of chuche in any storm.

The editorial continues:

We must carry on the activities for learning from the revolutionary traits of Comrade Kim Il-song in combination with the activities for acquiring a deep understanding of respected Comrade Kim Chong-il's traits of leadership.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is an outstanding leader and a great model of loyalty and filial duty who has perfectly inherited the noble traits and qualification of Comrade Kim Il-song and has done everything as he did.

So, we must follow the great revolutionary traits of Comrade Kim Chong-il, who always remains faithful to Comrade Kim Il-song.

Kim Il-song Showed 'Fatherly Love' for South

SK2308110895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — The great leader President Kim Il-song had felt more grieved than anybody else at the misery and distress suffered by the South Korean fellow countrymen until the last moment of his life from the first day of national division (August 1945) and had shown heartfelt love and care for them.

Even in the hard time right after the national liberation, when it was important to spare even a penny for nation building, the president sent trophies and electricity to the South Korean fellow countrymen.

He took a compatriotic measure to send water of Kuam and Yeui reservoirs to the peasants of southern Yonbaek plain under the South Korean puppets' rule at that time when they were tormenting at the drying fields for lack of water.

President Kim Il-song's fatherly love was shown, too, in war time (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953).

It was on the evening of June 27, 1950 when an overall attack for the liberation of Seoul was at hand after the People's Army frustrated the enemy's unexpected armed attack against the northern half of Korea and went over to counterattack.

Considerate of damages to be inflicted on the people by a midnight attack on Seoul, the president issued an order to delay the attack and start it after dawn, and to protect the lives and assets of the people.

He set up people's power bodies and proclaimed the law on labour, the law on equality of the sexes as well as the law on land reform, a cherished desire of peasants, in the liberated areas, thus surely guaranteeing the democratic rights and freedom of the South Korean people legally.

One day in July 1950 on his way for the inspection of the front through powder-smoke, he went round the Seoul city. Seeing people in agony for lack of firewood, he saw to it that firewood amounting to hundreds of thousands of cubic metres was sent to Seoul citizens for winter.

Such loving care went on up till the 1980s and the 1990s, as well as the period of post-war rehabilitation and construction and the construction of the foundation for socialism.

President Kim Il-song, by making cabinet decisions adopted in May 1957, August 1958, September 1959, March 1961 and June 1963, took measures to give relief to South Korea's jobless people, food-short peasants, afflicted people and wandering orphans suffering under the puppet clique's anti-social policy and to educate young South Koreans in the northern half of Korea.

At the 3rd meeting of the 3rd Supreme People's Assembly (March 1964) he took an epoch-making measure to provide South Korea every year with 2 million som [1 som = 5.12 U.S. bushels] of rice, 100,000 tons of steel, 1 billion kWh of electricity, 10,000 tons of chemical fibre, cement, timber and machinery and accept the unemployed to ensure them stable life in the north. When the southerners suffered disasters from flood in early September 1984, he sent them 50,000 som of rice, 500,000 metres of cloth, 100,000 tons of cement and lots of medicines.

Daily Stresses Importance of Ideological Work

SK2308110695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 23 Aug 95

["Ideological Work Is Important Revolutionary Duty for All Officials" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, August 23 (KCNA) — NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed article "Ideological Work Is Important Revolutionary Duty Which All Officials Should Carry Out".

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in his work "Giving Priority to Ideological Work Is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism" said that in socialist society, officials from all sectors and echelons must carry out ideological work, political work.

The article says:

The lesson of history shows that if it secures ideology, socialism will triumph and if it loses ideology, socialism will go to ruin.

To fully implement the policy requiring officials of all sectors and echelons to carry out ideological work is of weighty significance in stepping up socialist construction and firmly consolidating the socialist ideological bulwark.

This is an essential requirement for effecting constant upswing in all domains of the revolution and construction and an important requirement for thoroughly smashing the ideological and cultural infiltration of imperialism and cementing our socialist ideological bulwark.

All the officials, the hardcore elements of the party in socialist society, should become an ideological standard-bearer and a rampart defending the party and the socialist system. If they abandon ideological work, forgetful of this mission, bourgeois poison will spread in different fields of social life and people will be sick ideologically. This is clearly illustrated by the historical lesson from the collapse of socialism in some countries.

The policy requiring officials of all sectors and echelons to carry out ideological work is a powerful way of ideological work which displayed great vitality in our revolutionary practice.

Today a powerful advance to greet the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea as a grand festival of victors is being made in all domains of socialist construction and communist beautiful traits stirring up the people across the country are prevailing in Korea. This has clearly proved the validity and vitality of our party's policy on carrying out ideological work as the work of the whole party, state and society.

Telephone Operator Agrees To Move to Coal Mine

SK2108122495 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 20 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] At a time when, upholding the appeal of our party, many youths of the younger generation are successively volunteering to advance into the most difficult and arduous sectors of socialist economic construction, Comrade Myong Sun-yong, a telephone operator of the Pyongyang Telephone Office, resolved to advance into the Samsin Mine in Taesong District.

Bearing deep in mind the great leader's [suryongnim] behest to constantly increase coal production, Comrade Myong Sun-yong left for the mine, expressing her determination to fix herself permanently at the Samsin mine and uphold our party by increasing coal production so as to firmly defend and glorify socialism of our own style.

Taean Heavy Machine Complex Produces Generator

SK2208111495 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Functionaries and workers of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, who have vigorously accelerated the power facility's production amid great excitement and who will forever uphold the immortal appearance of the fatherly leader, have achieved success by producing all components of a 50,000-kilowatt hydroelectric generator.

With an iron-like faith that we will do what the party decides, the working class of the Taean complex have set the high target of gradually producing a 50,000-kilowatt hydroelectric generator, and have unconditionally overfulfilled their daily target. In particular, functionaries and workers of the power facility's No. 1 processing worksite have responsibly guaranteed the processing of major components, highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. As a result, they have successfully completed the massive amount of work ahead of schedule.

All worksites—including the power facility's No. 2 processing worksite, pipe-making worksite, assembly and casting worksites, and [word indistinct]—have produced and supplied components in a timely manner by vigorously producing humidistats, oil pressure devices, and castings as well as by strengthening the equal [word indistinct] while saving much material. As a result, they have greatly contributed to successfully completing the production of the 50,000-kilowatt hydroelectric generator.

Taechon Hydroelectric Enterprise Increases Output

SK2208115195 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Functionaries and workers of the Taechon Hydroelectric General Enterprise are stabilizing power production at a higher level by operating all power facilities at full capacity. Workers of the No. 2 power worksite are enhancing to the maximum the efficiency of generator operations and are properly conducting reservoir management as the water level rises during monsoon season. As a result, lately they have completed their daily power production target by 130 percent.

Functionaries, workers, and technicians have guaranteed the non- accident operation of the generators by diligently repairing facilities in a timely manner and by thoroughly conducting inspection tours [sunhoe chomgom], thus enhancing the efficiency of generator operations to the maximum in compliance with the rapidly increasing amount of water. Also, workers and technicians of the repair workteam are responsibly repairing the power facilities, including the generators, in a timely manner. As a result, they have enabled all generators to operate at full capacity.

South Korea

KEDO Reactor Site Survey Team Returns

SK2208115895 Seoul YONHAP in English 1146 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 22 (YONHAP) — The 15-member reactor site survey team of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) returned to the South Tuesday after taking an on-the-spot look at the candidate site of light-water reactors in North Korea.

An official at the office of the planning for the light-water reactor project said the team studied overall conditions of the site near Sinpo along the east coast.

"We understand the KEDO team had accomplished what it planned to do and agreed in principle with North Korea on the time of its second visit to Sinpo," the official said.

The team comprised 10 U.S., Japanese and South Korean experts and four officials from an American technical service contractor, Burns and No Co., plus an interpreter.

News Conference Held

SK2308075395 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0705 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization's [KEDO] reactor site survey team stated today that it held productive consultations with North Korean experts and conducted a preparatory survey of the Sinpo area during its visit to North Korea, and that the second survey of the area will be conducted as soon as possible.

Kang Yun-kwan, manager of the Construction and Technology Department of the office that is planning the light-water reactor project, who accompanied the survey team as an ROK delegate, held a news conference this afternoon in which he stated: "Fifteen experts from the KEDO survey team and 15 North Korean experts studied the conditions of the light-reactor construction sites based on three categories: geology, weather, and construction. In particular, it held a productive meeting with the North Korean experts amid a cooperative atmosphere."

However, Manager Kang Yun-kwan stated that North Korea had conveyed to the KEDO team a summary of documents, which were prepared by Russia in 1984, that were regarded as effective in surveying the site near the Sinpo area. The KEDO survey team will also meet in Seoul before 25 August to prepare an overall report of the results of its visit to North Korea. Following this, it will visit North Korea again and, based on the first survey, will reportedly and earnestly conduct the second survey.

Survey Outcome Reported

SK2308092095 Seoul YONHAP in English 0842 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — The site survey team of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) failed to obtain all the information the Russians gathered during the late 1980s on the proposed construction site for two light-water nuclear reactors at Sinpo, South Hamgyong Province, a member of the KEDO site survey team said Wednesday.

Giving a press conference on the outcome of the one-week mission to the Sinpo region to conduct a survey of the proposed construction site for building the two light-water reactors, Kang Yun-kwan, chief of the construction technology section of the office of planning for the light-water reactor project, however, said that his team received a summary of the full report which the Russians made on the Sinpo construction site.

"The report we received from the North is the English version of a Korean-language summary of the full report which the Russians made on two occasions," said Kang. "The report is composed of 13 sections, to each of which North Korea added annotations."

Kang admitted that, "the report which the site survey team got from the North does not have all the data needed by KEDO," although the report, which contains drawings of the Sinpo region, needs to be further examined.

He, however, would not respond to a question asking whether the North demanded that KEDO pay for the full text of the report the Russian made on the Sinpo site.

"I cannot answer that question," he said. "We'll have to discuss the issue of getting the full text with the North later on."

Acording to him, Sinpo, located three kilometers away from the beach, has a hilly landscape, which is quite different from the site where South Korea's Ulchin units 3 and 4 are located, the reference models for the two light-water reactors to be constructed in the north.

The KEDO team will study ways to link the proposed Sinpo site and the beach, Kang said. "We, however, can secure water resources in the Sinpo region, although the site has yet to be prepared for construction." He added that there is an unpaved road linking the site and the beach.

Barges would have easy access to the nearby Yanghwa port, but the port does not have the capacity to handle heavy materials, according to Kang.

He said that further examinations of the site will be needed in order to determine whether the site is proper for the construction of two Ulchin units.

"The site survey team examined three factors of the Sinpo location, the geology and terrain, the weather and construction, and the environment," he noted.

The KEDO site survey team had productive and technical consultations with a 15-member nuclear expert team from the North's general department of atomic energy of the State Council.

Based on the results of the survey conducted between Aug. 15 and 22, the KEDO team will make close examinations of the geology, characteristics of the sea water, weather, earthquake history and a number of other conditions in the region, Kang said.

Official Says Sinpo Not Appropriate for Site

SK2308045995 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 23 Aug 95 p 1

[Report by Ku Pon-yong]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Sinpo area, a candidate site to build light-water reactors in North Korea, would require a large amount of supplementary expenditures, such as the expense to readjust its conditions. This will be a considerable larger amount of expenses then expected. There is concern that there will be a large dispute between the United States and North Korea and between South and North Korea in the process of implementing the U.S.-DPRK light-water reactor negotiations.

Regarding this, a government official explained on 22 August: "North Korea is planning to select a site to build the reactors at an area several kilometers inland. If this is the case, a waterway would have to be excavated, and it will be inevitable that an enormous amount of additional expenses will be spent for construction."

This official also added: "The altitude of Sinpo is, on the average, over 60 meters. This is considerably higher than 10 meters, which in theory is the altitude required for the minimum cost to build the reactors. This is another element that will raise the expenses in readjusting the site to build the reactors higher than expected."

He also said: "At the last Kuala Lumpur U.S.-DPRK light-water reactor negotiations, North Korea had requested that all supplementary expenses, such as the expense to readjust the site to build the light-water reactors be paid by the United States. It is known that the United States was not able to completely shake off such a request by North Korea." Therefore, there is concern over the possibility that sharing the additional expenditures to readjust the site will emerge as a new contentious issue in the future implementation of the light-water reactor negotiations.

In particular, he emphasized: "In this process, we must prepare for the possibility that we may once again be asked to be burdened with the additional expenditure at a time when we are actually burdened with most of the expenditures for building the light-water reactors."

After completing its basic investigation work, the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization light-water reactor site survey team arrived in Seoul on the afternoon of 22 August, after visiting North Korea's Sinpo area since 15 August.

North Reportedly Thanks Japan for Rice Provision

SK2208020195 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 21 Aug 95

[Report by Tokyo-based correspondent Yi Il-hwa]

[FBIS Translated Text] Japan's SANKEI SHIMBUN has reported that North Korea explained its position in response to the protest filed by Kato, chairman of the Policy Research Committee of the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party, in connection with the remarks made by Kim Yong-sun, North Korean Workers Party secretary, that Japan provided rice for North Korea to apologize for its past.

Yi Chong-hyok, vice chairman of the North Korean Asia-Pacific Peace Committee, sent a facsimile message to Chairman Kato on 10 August, explaining that Japan provided North Korea with rice because North Korea requested it. The message also thanked the Japanese ruling coalition party officials for the provision of rice.

The message, however, made no reference to Secretary Kim Yong- sun's remarks. Therefore, the Japanese ruling coalition party held a senior party officers' meeting on 21 August and decided to call on the North Korean side again to explain on Secretary Kim Yong-sun's remarks.

North Said To Abduct An Sung-wun

SK2208113595 Seoul YONHAP in English 1112 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hong Kong, Aug. 22 (YONHAP) — Chinese public security authorities, investigating the case of the disappearance of Rev. An Sung-un in northeastern China, have concluded that the South Korean priest had been abducted to North Korea, it was learned here Tuesday.

A source at the Chinese security authorities said the mastermind in the kidnapping was Yi Kyong-chun, 39, a North Korean agent posted in Yanji disguised as a trade firm employee.

Yi was arrested by Chinese authorities afterwards and allowed an interview with a North Korean consul general, during which Yi, the source said, admitted to his wrongdoing.

A rough sketch of the incident, drawn based on Yi's statement made before Chinese authorities, was as follows:

Yi began to approach An in November 1994 for abduction. Afterwards, the two somewhat became friendly with An regarding Yi as a target of his missionary program.

In the course, Yi was sure An was an agent from South Korea's Agency for National Security Planning, who he thought was working to turn North Korean residents in China against Pyongyang and also openly helping North Korean escapees.

Abductors meticulously planned the kidnapping even by staging a rehearsal on last June 25.

With the help of two other North Korean agents and three pro- Pyongyang residents, Yi lured An into a vehicle in a residential area of Yanji around 4:30 pm last July 9. They drove to the border town of Tumen from which An and his captors — Yi and two of his colleagues — waded across the Tumen River into North Korea.

After turning An over to the Onsong-kun sub-station of the North's Public Security Ministry, Yi alone returned to Yanji. The North Koreans believed his normal presence in Yanji would be one way to escape suspicion from Chinese authorities.

But, Chinese public security authorities knew of the part Yi played in the kidnapping. For, both Yi and An were on the Chinese authorities' check list as potential "troublemakers."

Immediately after the abduction, Chinese authorities summoned Yi several times but he refused to turn himself in. He was arrested at Yanji airport prior to his planned flight to Shenyang.

The North Korean consul general in Shenyang asked for and was granted an interview with Yi, during which Yi said, "I was wrong. I took him to North Korea, ignorant of the Chinese law."

The source went on to say that based on what Yi said in the interview as well as on the outcome of their probe, the Chinese public security authorities believe Rev. An had been abducted to North Korea by Yi and his team.

Yi Kyong-chun is being held at a prison in some place other than Yanji. He is expected to be tried in China, the source added.

PRC 'Yet To Inform' on Pastor 'Abduction'

SK2308012395 Seoul YONHAP in English 0053 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — China has yet to inform South Korea of the outcome of its investigation into the alleged abduction on July 9 of a South Korean missionary in Yanbian, northeastern China, a Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday.

Denying reports that the Chinese authorities concluded that North Korea kidnapped Pastor An Sung-un, Director-General Kim Ha-Chung of the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau said that his ministry has not been notifed of the investigation's results, although the ministry has requested on several occasions through various diplomatic channels that China inform South Korea of its findings as soon as possible.

Kim added that the Chinese authorities responded that they will notify South Korea of the results as soon as the investigation is concluded.

Daily Views 'DPRK Connections' in U.S.

SK2308084095

[FBIS Editorial Report] Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean publishes a series of feature articles on North Korea's connections in the United States written by special reporter Kim Song-chin from Washington. The first of the series is a 1,000-word article carried on page 11 on 14 August. The article writes that "the wind of North Korea" began to blow among Korean-Americans in April when North Korea solicited tourists to the Pyongyang Festival, and that the wind blew full force when a North Korean art troupe led by Reverend Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea Christians Association, toured seven U.S. cities and two states. The article notes the popularity of North Korean singers Pak Pok-hui and An Hwa-pok when they performed in Los Angeles on 26 and 27 June. The North Korean art troupe's U.S. visit was arranged by Rev. Yi Sung-man, who is the first Asian to have chaired the U.S. National Council of Churches. Rev. Yi has visited North Korea on 12 occasions since 1978. When ROK President Kim Yong-sam visited the United States in July, Rev. Yi said he felt North Korea was changing every time he visited there, and that "it is time for us to recognize the changes." Rev. Yi said North and South Korea should both win in the reunification and, to that end, they should not deny each other's existence.

The second of the series is a 1,500-word article carried on page 4 on 15 August. The article notes that there are two major groups among Korean-Americans that are changing their attitude toward North Korea. One is the religious group and the other the businessmen's group. Explaining that the first group had influenced the ROK's democratization, the article states that its next goal is "the evangelization of North Korea" and "peaceful reunification." The article quotes Yi Yun-tae, who is attending Yomgwang Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, as saying: "I believe the short cut to opening up and evangelizing North Korea is for overseas Koreans to frequently visit North Korea." Introducing the second group, the article quotes a businessman who attended the Pyongyang Festival as saying: "There was not a single souvenir shop. I will study more about North Korea's economy and seek ways for investment."

The article also notes the existence of an anti-North Korean group among Korean-Americans. When the North Korean art troupe toured Atlanta, a South Korean discharged officers' group sent a statement demanding that the North Koreans limit their activities to religious events and music performances. The statement warned that the North Koreans "should not use or trample upon the pure national love of the Korean-Americans." Turning to second-generation Korean- Americans, the article says that "they assume a critical attitude toward the democratization in the ROK, but they are certainly not pro-North."

The third of the series is a 1,500-word article carried on page 8 on 16 August. The article introduces the role of Korean-American intellectuals in influencing the U.S. policy on North Korea, noting the activities of Rev. Yi Sung-man; Professor Kim Yong-chin, head of the East Asia Institute of George Washington University; and Professor Pak Han-sik of the University of Georgia. Rev. Yi believes "Korean-Americans are the bridge between North and South Korea." He expresses his opinion on U.S. policy on North Korea with White House and State Department officials at every opportunity. Professor Kim Yong-chin has close relations with Dr. John Merrill of the State Department and the Carnegie Foundation. Professor Pak Han-sik regularly organizes seminars on reunification, and is an adviser to CNN on North Korean affairs.

The fourth article is a 1,200-word article carried on page 10 on 18 August. Even though U.S. policymakers say the United States would not sacrifice the ROK to improve relations with North Korea, the article states that the emphasis is slowly moving toward North Korea. Based on the theory that the goal of U.S. policy on North Korea is to contain Japan and the PRC, the article assesses that if North Korea cooperates with the United States "to maintain its existence," the United States is likely to place more emphasis on North Korea rather than the ROK in developing its policies. The article also notes U.S. media opinion that "the ROK is the obstacle to North-South relations," citing the inconsistent ROK policy on North Korea.

U.S.'Business Development Council' Considered

SK2308021695 Seoul YONHAP in English
0104 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — South Korea and the United States are actively studying ways to establish an industrial consultative body where government officials as well as businessmen interact, the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministry said Wednesday.

The body, tentatively named the "Business Development Council (BDC)," is designed not only to expand bilateral trade and strengthen industrial cooperation but to also provide opportunities for the two nations to settle possible trade and industrial disputes, according to the ministry.

Trade ministers from both nations may assume the co-chairmen posts of the council.

The two nations already have established and managed the "industry advisory group on industrial cooperation," which has participants from business organizations in the nine fields of computers, communications, medical appliances, environmental facilities, the aerospace industry, machines, tools, automobiles and power generation facilities.

However, the ministry said, the two nations are pushing to expand and develop the non-governmental group into a joint council of government and businessmen, that is a 'BDC' which will deal with all types of business.

The two nations plan to decide the matter when U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ronald Brown visits South Korea in October. The United States already maintains the BDC's with other nations.

Daily Analyzes Worsening U.S.-PRC Ties

SK2308062295 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
23 Aug 95 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S.-PRC Collision Is Unprofitable"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The waves of crisis in the Taiwan Strait are heightening. Discord between the United States and China, which have been wrangling with each other over "human rights" and "most-favored-nation status" for a long time, has intensified into military tensions prompted by Taiwan President Li Teng-hui's visit to the United States in June. China is conducting missile firing exercises in the open sea off the Taiwan coast nearly every day. In this regard, the United States is reminding people of its security commitment toward Taiwan.

This situation developed after postponement of the U.S. visit by Chinese National Defense Minister Chi Haotian; the arrest of Harry Wu, Chinese-American human rights activist; the expulsion of two military attaches of the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong; the postponement of PRC-Taiwan highest-level civilian talks; and the return of U.S. and Chinese ambassadors to their home countries. This being the case, we are concerned about the possibility of U.S.- PRC relations falling into the worst phase since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1976.

The military tensions mounting in the Taiwan Strait and discord created between the United States and China with the Pacific in the middle are casting dark clouds over peace and security in the Asian region. Thus, our interest and attention cannot but be very serious. A report noted that U.S. President Clinton, apparently aware of this situation, is planning to expand the sphere of defense stipulated in the U.S.-Japanese Security Treaty into Asia. If this is true, a difficult question will be raised as to how we should react to this situation.

Before we are forced to work out such measures, we would like to call on the United States, China, and Taiwan to take positions to resolve the problems, instead of to create problems. Since the United States clarified that President Li's U.S. visit was a "private visit" and "a rare case," consultations should be advanced in such a way as to prevent from causing harm to "one China" from occurring.

It appears that China is attempting to totally break the spirit of Taiwan, which is striving to promote its international position, and of the United States, which is supporting Taiwan. However, we wonder how China can resolve its future problems with an attitude that does not care about aggravating their relations, as today.

"One China" is the goal unanimously advocated by the communist regime on the continent and Taiwan's Kuomintang. However, the difference in their strategies is that the communist regime is seeking to achieve the goal through subjugation of Taiwan; while the Kuomintang regime through recovery of the continent. Concerning this, however, we would like to urge both sides to realize that such a head-on collusion is not desirable to either of them. We believe there are ways for them to evade the collusion. It is now the time for them to realize that seeking a common nature in their consciousness and recovery of national homogeneity is the reasonable method to achieve "one China."

This being the situation, China and Taiwan should expand mutual exchanges and the United States should again assume its stance of supporting such China-Taiwan relations. U.S.-PRC relations should by no means develop into a new scramble for hegemony after the end of the Cold War.

U.S. 'Not Considering' No-Visa Treaty

SK2208233395 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2218 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] With regard to the delay in the issuance of U.S. visas which has recently emerged as an issue, the U.S. Embassy in Seoul said that it is not considering the conclusion of a no-visa treaty with the ROK at all.

Douglas Ellis, deputy consul general of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, stated yesterday evening [22 August]: It is still early for the United States to conclude a no-visa treaty with the ROK because the rate of Koreans illegally residing in the United States surpasses 3 percent, which is the limit. Accordingly, the United States is not considering allowing Koreans to enter the United States without visas.

Deputy Consul General Douglas Ellis, however, added that in order to solve problems concerning the delay in visa issuance, the U.S. Embassy will improve the application process for a visa interview which currently requires each visa applicant to visit the embassy to make an appointment for an interview, so that visa applicants can make appointments for visa interviews by telephone or letter.

Reactors Meet 'Highest World Standard'

SK2308081695 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 23 Aug 95 p 2

[Report by Yim Min-su]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 22 August, the Ministry of Science and Technology [MOST] announced that in a report forwarded recently to our Government on the result of evaluation of Ulchin Nos. 3 and 4 reactors, the main ROK-model light-water reactors to be offered to North Korea, the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] confirmed that the Ulchin No. 3 and 4 reactors meet "the highest world standard of safety." The IAEA's design safety investigation team visited the ROK from 29 May to 9 June, immediately after controversies were raised on ROK-model light-water reactors, and carried out field survey and examination of the reactors. After going through this process, the IAEA submitted an evaluation report to our government early this month.

In this report, the IAEA pointed out that the Ulchin No. 3 and 4 reactors attained improvements in design characteristic of the ROK; the survey level and safety evaluation standards of the Korea Institute for Nuclear Safety are outstanding; and the test results of design and operation for Yonggwang Nos. 3 and 4, the precedent nuclear reactors, have been satisfactorily reflected in the Ulchin reactors. Thus, IAEA highly appraised ROK's atomic industry technology.

Relevant officials of the MOST stated that with this conclusion by the IAEA, controversies raised internationally for a while over the safety of ROK-model light-water reactors to be offered to North Korea will now be completely cleared up.

Meanwhile, the IAEA's evaluation report also added 12-clauses of recommendations, including one calling for the government to carry out many-sided analysis of improvements in design.

The MOST decided to reflect all recommendations in building and operating successive atomic plants, except three clauses such as "expansion of the scope of reviewing human engineering," which cannot be accepted as it is not subject to conditions restricting nuclear energy at home and overseas. The government plans to forward the document of opinions on relevant clauses to the IAEA by 30 August.

House Vice Speaker To Visit Europe, Mideast

SK2308091095 Seoul YONHAP in English 0738 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — National Assembly Vice Speaker Yi Han-tong will embark on a tour of European and Near Eastern countries next Monday that will take him to Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Germany and Britain for 10 days.

In Britain and Germany, he will meet parliamentary leaders of both countries and discuss inter-Korean relations and German reunification, as well as promote parliamentary exchange programs between Korea and these European countries.

His visit to the three other countries will be informal, assembly sources noted.

Yi will be accompanied by Reps. Hyon Kyong-tae and Ham Sok-chae of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party and Rep. Chong Ki-ho of the opposition Democratic Party.

Problems in Senegal Land Purchase Revealed

SK1808125495 Seoul YONHAP in English
1235 GMT 18 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 18 (YONHAP) — The South Korean Embassy in Senegal purchased a land in Dakar for a new embassy building in 1984 but has left it unused since, a recent check by the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) showed.

A BAI official said Friday the embassy has left the land idle as it could not build a new embassy building on it because of a building height limit imposed by Senegalese authorities.

Senegalese people later built illegal structures on the land for their use, the official said.

Stating that the land originally belonged to a relative of the then Senegalese president, the official said there is the suspicion that the land purchase might have been a sort of bribery to a man close to the Senegalese president rather than for the construction of a new embassy building.

He also said that a former ambassador to Senegal was unlawfully paid tens of million won in family allowances for three years.

The illegal payment was in the form of family allowances for his wife and children who were not eligible for the allowances since they didn't stay abroad, the official said, adding that the BAI plans to recollect all the money illegally paid to him and recommend some step against him.

President Awaits 'Proper Time' for Reshuffle

SK2308031295 Seoul YONHAP in English
0254 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — A reshuffle of the cabinet and the presidential secretariat is likely to be carried out early next week, a few days later than originally expected.

A key official of the ruling camp said Wednesday, "President Kim Yong-sam is expected to reorganize the cabinet and his secretariat after completing the selection of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's middle and lower-echelon post holders before the week's end and after presenting Friday his blueprint for state administration during the latter half of his presidential tenure."

But Kim was said to have already completed the line-ups of the new cabinet and his secretariat.

Noting the fact that Rep. Kang Sam-chae, in his early 40s, has been recruited as the DLP secretary-general, the official added, "It appears certain that such intentions (to pursue a generational shift in politics) of President Kim will be reflected in the reshaping of the cabinet and the Chongwadae secretariat as well."

"Bold appointments of officials in their 40s are expected to be made in the upcoming reorganization of cabinet members and senior presidential secretaries with the focus on a generational shift in the political leadership," the source said.

Having completed the new cabinet and presidential secretariat line-ups, the official added, the president is now just waiting for the proper time to announce the changes to the public.

There is also a possibility, however, that the cabinet and presidential secretariat changes will be announced Thursday on the heels of President Kim's Chongwadae luncheon meeting Wednesday when he will meet with a group of elder statesmen including opposition leader Kim Tae-chung.

Kim Yong-sam, Kim Tae-chung, Party Leaders Meet

SK2308090895 Seoul YONHAP in English
0741 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam explained to chairman Kim Tae-chung of the National Congress for New Politics his plans to lead the nation in the second half of his five-year term over a luncheon he hosted for elder statesmen and political leaders at Chongwadae Wednesday.

The chief executive also asked for the cooperation of his political rival in achieving his goal of a national consensus and harmony now that the nation has just marked the 50th anniversary of liberation from Japanese rule, presidential spokesman Yun Yo-chun said.

The encounter between the two Kims was the first since August 1992 when they sat down to a meeting in the parliament as standard- bearers of the ruling and opposition parties during the presidential election held in December of that year.

The meeting is thus expected to provide an opportunity to establish a new government-opposition relationship, as Kim Tae-chung now leads the largest opposition party in the parliament.

At Wednesday's meeting, however, there was no exclusive contact between the two Kims before or after the lunch, according to Yun.

Also on hand at the luncheon meeting which lasted about one hour and 10 minutes were 29 leaders from various sectors of the community, including ruling and opposition party heads, incumbent and former parliamentary speakers, chief justices, premiers and Constitutional Court presidents, former opposition party leaders, chairman Kim Sung-kon of the Korea liberation association and chairman Kim Ke-su of the committee for the 50th anniversary of Korean liberation.

President Kim reportedly said that the time has come for the country to renew its determination as well as solidify its preparedness for the future as it marked the 50th anniversary of its liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

Yun quoted the president as saying, "the 50th anniversary has a special meaning that we can never neglect...Only when we realize the unification of South and North Korea can we call it true liberation."

Emphasizing that the Korean peninsula remains an "unhappy" region where the cold war has still not ended, President Kim said, "we can become a first-rate country, if only we can overcome splits in national opinion."

He also emphasized that he will never stop his effort to eliminate irregularities and corruption and continue to push for changes and reform.

However, there was not any significant dialogue on the current political situation between President Kim and his long-time political rival, Kim Tae-chung.

President Kim did show interest in the opposition leader's inauguration of a new party while the latter commented on President Kim's scheduled visit to the United Nations.

Even though the encounter between the two Kims was not one-on- one, it was notable that the luncheon served as the first formal recognition by Chongwadae of Kim as NCNP chairman. The ruling camp previously refrained from openly recognizing Kim's political influence since his proclaimed political retirement in the wake of the 14th presidential election.

Other leaders invited to the luncheon included House Speaker Hwang Nak-chu, ex-speaker Yi Man-sop, Chief Justice Yun Kwan, Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku, ex-premiers Yi Yong-tok, Yi Hoe-chang, Hwang In-song, Chong Won-sik, Hyon Sung-chong, Kang Yong-hun, No Sin-yong and Sin Hyon-hwak, Constitutional Court President Kim Yong-chun, opposition Democratic Party Chairman Yi Ki-taek, former opposition party leaders Yi Chol-sung, Yi Min-u and Yu Chi-song and ruling Democratic Liberal Party Chairman Kim Yun-hwan

However, opposition United Liberal Democratic Chairman Kim Chong- pil, ex-speakers Pak Chun-kyu and Kim Chae-sun and ex-premier No Chae-pong were not present at the meeting.

Kim Tae-chung Seeks Meeting

SK2308093295 Seoul YONHAP in English
0644 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — Opposition party leader Kim Tae-chung expressed his hope Wednesday for a one-on-one meeting with President Kim Yong-sam to discuss a variety of political issues.

"We are making a formal political party and there should be a dialogue between the ruling and opposition parties," said Kim Tae- chung who leads the National Congress for New Politics (NCNP), the embryonic but largest opposition party.

The political archrival of President Kim also said that "it will be natural (for us) to meet as leaders of the ruling and opposition parties."

Meeting reporters at the NCNP's headquarters in Yoido, central Seoul, just after he returned from a luncheon hosted by President Kim at Chongwadae, Kim Tae-chung said, "it will be beneficial for President Kim and me to have dialogues as the president expressed his willingness to pursue political harmony."

Responding to a question asking if President Kim and the NCNP leader have any topics which would justify a one-on-one meeting, Kim Tae-chung said, "that's up to President Kim (to decide)."

Yi Ki-taek Expresses Intention To Resign

SK2308022895 Seoul YONHAP in English
0216 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — Yi Ki-taek, president of the opposition Democratic Party (DP), expressed his intention Wednesday not to run for one of the co-chairman positions at the party's national convention slated for next Monday.

DP Spokesman Rep. Yi Kyu-taek said that Yi's decision is meant to help settle the internal trouble the party has been experiencing.

Rep. Yi told the spokesman on Wednesday morning that he will resign as party president at the convention to make way for others to run for the co-chairman posts.

Rep. Yi and his opponents recently agreed to reorganize the party's leadership by inaugurating a co-chairman system.

"I had already thought about the resignation when I accepted the proposal of the co-chairman system," Yi was quoted as saying.

The DP had been the main opposition party until former opposition leader Kim Tae-chung recently inaugurated a new party with 54 DP lawmakers following his move.

Since then, the DP was divided into two factions — one which remains loyal to Rep. Yi and another which is demanding Yi's resignation as party president.

The two factions have agreed to hold a national convention next Monday to temporarily reorganize the party's leadership until it holds a special national convention sometime before Dec. 15 this year when the party will inaugurate a new leadership system to prepare for next year's general elections.

Lawmaker Attempts To Unite 'Reformist Forces'

SK2308031895 Seoul YONHAP in English
0301 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — Rep. Hong Sa-tok bolted from the National Congress for New Politics (NCNP) Wednesday.

At a meeting with the press in the National Assembly, he said he had decided to join "democratic and reformist forces" in a movement to unite them, adding he "seceded from the new party today."

The NCNP is a new party being created by opposition leader Kim Tae-chung.

Noting that political circles again engage in the regional rivalries which they tried to settle in the presidential election eight years ago, Hong stated that the repetition of regionalism would only impede the national efforts to prepare for the 21st century.

He declared he would not join any political group or party, saying he would devote himself to the unity of democratic and reformist forces.

"I'll try my best to create a political environment in which voters will no longer vote for a candidate who hails from their native place," he added.

Prosecution Indicts Former Finance Minister

SK2208122795 Seoul YONHAP in English
1127 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Aug. 22 (YONHAP) — The Prosecutor General's Office on Tuesday indicted former Finance Minister Yi Yong-man without physical restraint on graft charges.

In March 1993 the prosecution detected signs of Yi having received large amounts of money in bribes from the then head of the Donghwa Bank.

But, a prosecution action against him was suspended following his abrupt flight abroad.

In the 1993 probe, Yi was suspected of having pocketed 730 million won in all. However, the prosecution said Tuesday a final probe showed Yi took only 140 million won.

Yi returned home early last month and has since been undergoing treatment at Seoul National University Hospital for a lung tumor.

Police Focus on 'Cover-Up' of Bank Notes

SK2308011295 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 23 Aug 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pusan — The police, investigating the leakage of damaged 10,000-won notes from the Bank of Korea's Pusan branch, are focusing on just how high up the inside cover-up reaches.

On Monday, the amount of 10,000-won notes leaked snowballed from 550,000 won to 350 million won as Kim Tae-yong confessed the full extent of his crime to the police.

Kim, a former employee at the branch, said he stole about 350 million won worth of damaged 10,000-won notes on over 10 different occasions between 1993 and 1994 during the period where he oversaw maintenance of scanners at the branch.

Kim's confession raised a specter of doubt of insider accomplices.

The police, after questioning the middle managers of Kim's office, said yesterday that top officials of the branch failed to report to the bank's main office in Seoul of the missing 7,265 10,000-won notes when Kim was caught in April 1994.

Pak Tok-mun, then branch manager, and Kang Hwa-chung, vice branch manager, were informed of the missing won notes and Kim's notebook containing details of his dealings with securities firms, police investigators said.

However, neither the material evidence nor the missing notes were mentioned in its report to the Seoul main office.

The police suspect that both Pak and Kang were directly involved in the coverup. The police plan to summon them for questioning.

Meanwhile, police have obtained a search warrant to seize related internal bank documents on Kim's case.

As for the lost money, police tracked about 270 million won of the 350 million won Kim stole from the branch deposited in over six securities firms under his name.

About 50 million won was registered at Koryo Securities Co.'s Pusan branch under his wife's name, and the remaining 30 million won under the name of a friend, known only as Kwon, police found out.

As suspicion brews over the possibility of outside accomplices, the police are investigating Kim's friend Kwon and an employee of a company which supplied scanners to the branch.

The scanners which were used by the branch to determine the recyclability of notes were Kim's apparatus in the crime. Kim was able to steal the money by manipulating the cutter attached to the scanner, investigators said.

Fishermen End 'Floating Demonstration' 22 Aug

*SK2308013995 Seoul YONHAP in English
0122 GMT 23 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kunsan, North Cholla Province, Aug. 23 (YONHAP) — The three-day floating demonstration by fishermen from South Kyongsang Province in waters off the port city of Kunsan ended Tuesday as the demonstrators started to disperse at about 9 PM [1200 GMT on 22 August].

Consequently, access to the harbor has been reopened, normalizing the port city's business.

Some 190 fishing boats from the southern province staged the demonstration Sunday, demanding that they be allowed to fish for anchovies in the waters off North Cholla and South Chungchong Provinces where only boats from those two provinces are allowed to fish commercially.

At an evening meeting on Tuesday with officials of the fisheries administration and the South Kyongsang Province government in Changhang, a town across the Kum river from Kunsan, 10 representatives from the demonstrating flotilla agreed that they would end the protest and leave by 5 AM Wednesday.

The officials told the demonstrators that their demands to be allowed to fish for anchovies off North Cholla and South Chungchong Provinces could not be accepted under any circumstances, but agreed to positively study their other demands to adjust the length of the anchovy fishing season and to increase the upper tonnage limit of anchovy processing boats to 70 tons.

Some 250 fishermen from South Chungchong Province also ended their demonstration at 7 PM in front of the Kunsan Maritime Police Station, demanding the release of the province's 20-ton fishing guidance boat, the Chungnam No. 201, which was overtaken along with its four-man crew by South Kyongsang fishing boats Monday morning.

Meanwhile, the boat and its crew were released at 6 PM Tuesday.

Burma

Newspaper Reports Fishing Incident With Thailand

BK1908120295 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 12 Aug 95 pp 12, 6

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Exercising rights vested in it under Section 51 (b) of Chapter 13 of the Myanmar [Burma] Fisheries Law, the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries terminated operation of fishing vessels of Narong Fisheries Co of Thailand on Myanmar waters for dishonest acts, effective 3 August, 1995.

The ministry took action against the company, which was undertaking a joint venture with Myanmar's Fisheries Department, for such allegedly unwarranted acts as catching fish and prawns using prawn nets, transferring fine catches of fish to illegal boats and smuggling out to the other country, displaying poor quality fish at Myeik [Mergui] inspection camp, bullying Myanmar crew on board and forcibly making them work by giving them stimulants without let-up for sleep and rest.

With grudge borne for this action, company-owned vessels No 044 and 047 took away on board a powered boat 10 of 28 Myanmar crew on the waters of the other country, near Thahtay Island of Kawthaung, on 6 August.

Of the remaining 18 crewmen, five were tied up and thrown overboard and 13 were beaten with iron rods and the Myanmar crewmen had to jump overboard and escape.

Moreover, crew of vessel No 040 seized a Myanmar boatman, Thingyan Maung, 25, son of U Georgy Aung, of Pauktaw and beat him. He was tied down for 12 hours and then thrown overboard.

Thrown overboard by the crew of the vessels No 040, 044 and 047, Myanmar boatmen Kyaw Tun Hla of Paung and Tun Kyi of Thanbyuzayat drowned. Their bodies, hands tied at the back, were recovered by a Myanmar rescue team near Thahtay Island in Kawthaung Township an 9 August.

Of the crew who jumped into the sea, three swam to the Thahtay Island and escaped to Kawthaung. Thingyan Maung and 23 of the 28 Myanmar boatmen of vessels No 044 and 047 are still missing. Myanmar rescue teams are searching for them.

Fate of Myanmar crew on other Thai vessels cannot still be determined.

UN Special Envoy Meets Officials, Departs

Received by Maung Aye

BK1808004395 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] General Maung Aye, vice chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], deputy commander in chief of the defense services, and army commander in chief, received Mr. Alvaro de Soto, visiting representative of the UN secretary general and also assistant secretary general, at the Defense Ministry's Dagon House at 1300 today.

Also present were Lieutenant General Tin Oo, SLORC secretary 2; Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw; U Win Mra, Myanmar's [Burmese] permanent representative to the United Nations; Thura U Aung Htet, director general of Protocol Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and an official of Myanmar affairs of the UN Political Affairs Department.

Seen Off at Airport

BK2008073595 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Alvaro de Soto, the representative of the UN secretary general and also assistant UN secretary general, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening. He was seen off at Yangon International Airport by U Ba Thwin, director general of the International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Win Mra, Myanmar's [Burma's] permanent representative to the United Nations; and responsible personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

BBC Burmese Service Reports 'Jamming'

BK2208024895 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] According to BBC engineers, Burma is jamming the Burmese language program of the BBC World Service. It is understood that this is the first time in the 55 year history of BBC's Burmese language broadcasts that Burma has jammed its broadcasts. BBC engineers said that two out of the three frequencies used for the broadcasts are being systematically jammed. The head of the BBC World Servicc's Asia-Pacific Division, Elizabeth Wright, says there is no solid justification for the jamming, which violates international broadcasting regulations.

The BBC has added other freguencies for its Burmese program to help overcome the jamming. The additional short wave frequencies are 31 meters or 9670 khz, and 16 meters or 17790 khz.

Khin Nyunt Meets Loikaw Bishop on Development

BK2108145195 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Bishop Sotero Pharmo, the Catholic bishop of Loikaw in Kayah State, called on Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and chairman of the Work Committee for the Development of Border Areas and National Races, at 1600 today. During the meeting, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt discussed the further implementation of development activities to achieve permanent peace in Kayah State.

Also present at the meeting were Colonel Kyaw Win, deputy director of Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence; peace negotiator U Hkun Myat; and senior military officers.

Rangoon Radio: 30 'Rebels' Surrender in Ye

BK2108153095 Rangoon Radio Myanmar in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The state government has prescribed 12 political, economic, and social objectives in trying to build national reconsolidation and establish a new, modern, and developed nation while keeping in mind the three national objectives. The government has also constructed model villages; built houses; reclaimed arable land; and provided health, education, and social needs for the sustainable economic development of those members of the armed groups in the jungle and their families who have returned to the legal fold after realizing their wrongdoings. Moreover, cottage industries, agriculture, and livestock breeding activities have also been implemented for the family members' livelihood.

Members of armed groups who have come to accept the works undertaken and the genuine goodwill of the state government have been giving up their armed struggle and surrendering continuously along with their arms and ammunition at various military camps, both individually and in groups.

At 0900 on 19 August, a group of 30 rebels led by Captain Saw Than Nyein, officer in charge of Mayan region in Mon State from the Karen insurgent group's 6th Brigade, surrendered along with 23 assorted arms — one AK medium machine gun, 11 AK-47 automatic rifles, two .38 pistols, two carbines, five M-16 automatic rifles, one M-79 rocket launcher, and one BA-64 automatic rifle — at the Ye Garrison. Those who surrendered were cordially and warmly welcomed by the Defense Services personnel and the local populace and were given the necessary assistance and provisions.

Editorial Views Oil, Gas Discovery in Pakokku

BK1908120395 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 10 Aug 95 p 6

[Editorial: "Tapping The Potential"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Myanmar [Burma] is endowed with natural mineral resources. In the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, efforts have been directed at obtaining more and more natural gas and oil from the potential exploration and exploitation areas.

Significant progress has been made in these ventures, the latest being the Kyaukkhwet oilfield in Myaing Township, Pakokku District in upper Myanmar.

State Law and Order Restoration Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe visited test well No 1 there this week during his current tour of development areas.

At the site, he was briefed by Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein on the drilling of the test well in late May this year and how on 4 August oil and gas were struck at a depth of 3,600 feet, and other officials filled in on economic feasibility and other salient points.

The Senior General presented oilfield workers with a cash award of K [kyat] 50,000 for their success through Supervisor U Than Aung. He also handed food and other gifts for the good work they had done in helping to realize one of the economic objectives of the State.

Both onshore and offshsore, the State Law and Order Restoration Council has been scoring success in this connection. What is significant is that companies like Total, Unocal and Texaco have signed up to help exploit the resources.

The Yadana gas field offshore in Taninthayi [Tenasserim] Division will be selling natural gas through a pipeline to Thailand in the near future.

Moreover, the mills and factories which can utilize natural gas have been able to show good returns by using such sources of fuel.

Gas turbines have also been utilized to power electric generators, a venture which assures adequate supply of electricity. More important, the gas-operated turbines are cleaner than their coal-burning counterparts.

Work is well under way to drill test well No 2 in the area where seismic surveys have indicated the presence of potential supplies.

We are to be happy that both technicians and other workers involved in such ventures have been able to do well in their endeavours.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Editorial Criticizes UN Policy on Goradze

BK2208142995 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Aug 95 p 12

[Editorial: "Goradze going, gone"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The only consolation out of the disastrous collapse of Srebrenica and Zepa was a vow to never let the same thing happen to Bosnia's four remaining safe havens. Last month's London meeting of the Contact Group — Britain, France, Russia and the US — tried to put enough substance to unstretch the credibility of the United Nations' mandate to protect the victims of aggression. The muscling-up of military options — the Rapid Reaction Force, a structure of authority that gave more power to field commanders, a bigger role for Nato — was the biggest attempt so far to retrieve the shambles of recent months. Most of the grounds for reluctant optimism rested on a renewed commitment over the safe areas of Gorazde, Bihac, Tuzla and, most of all, Sarajevo — a commitment buttressed by granting Nato more leeway in the use of force, rather than the pin pricks previously allowed under the UN's civilian authority. The London conferees were no doubt mindful of what had happened in Srebrenica, whose fate was sealed by the thousands of refugees chased out by the Serb attack. UN special envoy Yasushi Akashi, who commands all operations in ex-Yugoslavia, ruled out all proposals to retake the town. His propensity to cave in, rather than stand up, to Serb threats against non-combatants and lightly armed UN peace keepers has been a strategic gambit for the aggressors.

The consolation might yet prove too good to be true. The decision to withdraw troops from Gorazde ostensibly to take some lightly armed soldiers out of the way, cuts no ice with those who have grown used to the UN's icy aloofness over the fate of the Bosnian nation. Since the hostage-taking in June, Unprofor [United Nations Protection Force] should have better than learnt its lesson to never leave any troops exposed. It is hard to see why it should solicit a troop presence from the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) consisting of a smattering of poorly equipped soldiers from each member, including Malaysia. Unless token garrisons are to be situated simply to taunt the rebel Serbs into provoking a Nato retaliation, they would serve no other purpose than to risk lives and make a nonsense of the UN protection mandate. Without adequate guarantees of self-defence, most of which can be supplied by the contributing countries themselves, Malaysia and its OIC co-members cannot be wrong in refusing the UN troop appeal. By evacuating Gorazde itself, the UN looks like it has killed two political birds with one stone. It could blunt criticism by Muslim countries that it has not done enough, and manoeuvre the territory of Gorazde into a bargaining chip.

The suspicion of political shadow playing has been heightened by the sharply raised stakes over the issue of Bosnia since June. Western governments are under pressure to "do something" — former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, decrying Western policy as "logically flawed" and "morally repulsive", has gone against her successor John Major; US President Bill Clinton continues to defy his Congress' vote to lift the arms embargo; and France's more active stance continues to put its Western neighbours on the spot. The UN's stubborn indecisiveness is only too glad to surrender the initiative and the blame to someone else, while it spoils the way forward for all those who are not part of its powerful vested interests. If Gorazde is bartered away in a Croat-Serb share-out, rather than sternly defended on its own principle, only those interests will be served, Bosnia's will not.

Foreign Minister Affirms Bosnia Aid To Continue

95SE0170A Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 10 Jul 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuala Lumpur, 9 Jul—Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has said that Malaysia will continue to send financial aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina, according to our ability and the needs of their people.

So far, he said, Malaysian Government humanitarian aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina has reached tens of millions of ringgit. "The starvation problem in Bosnia-Herzegovina is not a new matter. Its citizens are always threatened by starvation. We will continue to help them as much as we are able," he said after opening group meetings of the the Datuk Keramat Zone UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Branch today.

Yesterday, an official of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) was reported to have said that more than 500,000 Muslim residents of Gorazde, Bihac, and Sarajevo are threatened with starvation because of the unwillingness of Serb terrorists to permit aid convoys to bring supplies to those areas.

The report said that, besides the existence of a threat of starvation, the health situation also has been hurt, with hepatitis on the increase at Bihac.

Ahmad Kamal Mohd. Ali, vice president of International Islamic Youth of Malaysia (ABIM), said that the unwillingness of the United Nations Protective Force (UNPROFOR) to guard aid convoys in areas surrounded by Serb terrorists is the main reason for the starvation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"ABIM regrets the attitude of the United Nations and the UNPROFOR, led by Yasushi Akashi, because they have not taken firm action to guard aid supplies from the UNHCR, resulting in starvation in that country.

"Because the UN agency itself is often attacked and is not protected, nongovernmental organizations such as ABIM cannot provide aid to the areas that need it," he said.

Ahmad Kamal said that the UN structure in Bosnia-Herzegovina needs to be reorganized in order to resolve the problem of guarding aid convoys.

"The UNPROFOR is often criticized by the UNHCR on the shipping of aid. In fact, many volunteers have died in attacks by Serb terrorists when the volunteers tried to pass through areas under siege by the terrorists," he said.

Commentator Views 'Implications' of GSP Loss

BK2308055495 Kuala Lumpur THE STAR in English 23 Aug 95

[Comment by V.K. Chin — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Malaysians should be concerned with the removal of the generalised scheme of preferences [GSP] status by the developed economies. The loss will mean that our goods will be less competitive.

This will lead to a drop in business resulting in the companies concerned unable to sell their goods in the traditional market. It is possible that if these producers cannot handle this new development, they will have to retrench staff or even close down their factories.

This will be one of the most significant implications facing the country. Another key consideration will be its impact on foreign investors who may have chosen Malaysia because they want to export their goods to other countries.

These are issues which the government and the business community will have to ponder carefully. After all, foreign investors do not come here because they like us but because the environment is conducive to them to do business.

In other words, either we provide them with the means to make more money or they will go elsewhere where they can achieve this objective.

There is always the worry that jobs will disappear due to retrenchment.

However, with the present shortage of workers, it should not be too difficult for those affected to obtain jobs somewhere else. An experienced worker will be sought after by employers though he will have to get used to a new surrounding or industry.

But the GSP privilege is not the only reason why investors prefer one country over another. A developing country may enjoy lots of such privileges as it has no past performance to speak of.

It will be easy for them to get special trade tariffs from the developed countries which provide such privileges just to help the less developed ones. Goods which enjoy such concessions usually involve primary products which will be upgraded to manufactured goods when their economies improve.

However, such developing nations quite often are rather disorganised and do not have a proper system to deal with foreign investors who are keen to take advantage of the low labour cost.

Entrepreneurs are keen to make money, but they must also be convinced that their investments will be safe and that they will be given a fair shake by the host governments when there are disputes.

Even with the signing of trade agreements there is no guarantee that the foreign investors will get the necessary protection. So it is not just cheap labour or costs that businessmen look for in setting up their ventures.

Political and social stability, a tested legal system, good infrastructure, and a trainable workforce are some of the ingredients considered as indispensable by prospective investors.

Multinational corporations and individual businessmen have had some pretty bad experiences in the past few years when they rushed into countries which have liberalised their economies thinking that they could make a killing.

Instead they lost billions as the host governments keep on changing the goal posts. Rather than throw good money after bad, many of these corporations had preferred to cut losses and concentrate their resources in more stable countries.

As Malaysia has all these attractions which foreign investors are looking for, it should remain a popular investment centre in spite of the expected loss of GSP privileges.

Minister Announces Economic Aid for Philippines

95SE0170B Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 4 Jul 95 p 13

[FBIS Translated Text] Kepala Batas, 3 Jul—Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi says Malaysia will give educational and economic assistance to the Islamic community in Mindanao in the Philippines. He announced that the plan to help the Islamic community is a result of the meeting of a Malaysia-Philippines joint commission last year.

He said that, in the meeting, there was discussion of a request by Philippine President Fidel Ramos that Malaysia help to develop the Islamic community in Mindanao. "We welcomed the request and will offer the necessary aid, in stages," he told reporters.

Earlier, he had opened a meeting for presentation of awards to students who were outstanding in 1993 and 1994 at the Daerahtul Ma'Arisil Wataniah (DMW) Religious Secondary School here.

With regard to such educational help, Abdullah announced that Malaysia will make opportunities for students from the Islamic community in Mindanao to continue their studies at institutions of higher education in this country. He said also that the Islamic community will be developed economically through courses on management and development of businessmen.

Abdullah said that Malaysia also plans to form a special group like the Pilgrims' Fund to enable Muslims there to make the pilgrimage to Mecca. "Through such a special group for the welfare of the Islamic community, Muslims will be able to invest while at the same time helping themselves from the aspect of economic development," he said.

In reply to a question, he said that efforts to provide such aid are still at the discussion stage, and all endeavors to implement it will be at the officer level. In his speech earlier, he said he wants the Islamic community in Malaysia to be a good example, without the quarrels among ourselves that occur in some other Islamic countries. "Quarreling with each other in Islam is a disease that must be overcome," he said.

UMNO Members Warned Against 'Money Politics'

95SE0170C Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 10 Jul 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuala Lumpur, 9 Jul—Groups outside UMNO [United Malays National Organization] will control the party if UMNO members do not act firmly to resolve the problem of "money politics." Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said that UMNO members who practice money politics do not care about the interests of the party, their comrades in struggle, or Islamic teachings.

The minister, who is also a member of the Supreme Council (MT), said such people will do anything, including selling votes, to get money. "In theory, anyone, whether inside or outside the party, who wants to control UMNO and determine party decisions could distribute money if there are UMNO members who are willing to receive it.

"Thus, it is theoretically possible for outside elements to use money to control UMNO, because there are members who are willing to be manipulated.

"The practice of money politics is like a drug that can injure individuals or society. If this bad practice is not stopped completely, UMNO will be damaged and destroyed," he said as he inaugurated group meetings of the Datuk Keramat Zone UMNO Branch today.

About 300 UMNO members attended the meeting. Also in attendance were Datuk Suleiman Mohamed, deputy president of the Federal Territory UMNO Liaison Committee; Abdullah Zain, president of Federal Territory UMNO Youth; and Datuk Mohd. Shah Sapuan, deputy president of the UMNO Division at Titiwangsa.

Regarding fights for seats in UMNO branch and division elections, Abdullah advised UMNO members to perform more service to the party before trying to win positions. "If we have not performed much service to UMNO, we should not be eager to lead and hold positions in the party," he said.

Speaking further on the matter at a press conference, Abdullah said he considers his statement appropriate, because UMNO members naturally do not want people who have not served the party very long to become their leaders. "This does not mean that young people should not lead UMNO, for many young leaders have performed great service to the party," he said.

Cambodia

Rejection of Dialogue With Khmer Rouge Viewed

BK2108050795 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Aug 95 p A 8

[Report by Marisa Chimprapha: "Phnom Penh Government Now Strong Enough To Reject Khmer Rouge's Overture for Peace"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Phnom Penh has two good reasons for ignoring the Khmer Rouge's call for dialogue after years of military resistance and political recalcitrance. Wracked by internal conflicts, the outlawed group is in a very weak position, while the legitimate government of Cambodia is getting stronger politically.

The guerrillas made their most serious call for dialogue one year after Phnom Penh and its National Assembly officially passed legislation outlawing them last July. The Khmer Rouge responded to the legislation by setting up a shadow government based in its stronghold in Preah Vihear province headed by nominal leader Khieu Samphan.

Phnom Penh and the guerrillas failed in many earlier attempts at reconciliation. The failures stemmed from a disagreement between both sides over the pre-conditions for peace, such as a complete ceasefire before the talks could begin.

The Khmer Rouge's condition that talks must be held outside of Phnom Penh was also rejected by the government. Furthermore, Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk has also failed to bring both sides to the negotiating table.

An Asian diplomat said the latest Khmer Rouge demand came as no surprise because it has long been known that the group has suffered from internal problems. Veteran members of the rebel group led by its notorious leader Pol Pot have been in conflict with the new generation who are known to prefer a cessation of fighting to continued armed resistance.

The differences among members of the Maoist rebel group is evident from the increasing number of defectors who have surrendered to the government. "It's not surprising that Phnom Penh has ignored the Khmer Rouge's overture as now it is in quite a sound position both domestically and internationally," said the diplomat.

The Khmer Rouge made the call for peace talks in July but it was not publicized until some senior members of the government voiced their opposition to it. Defence Minister Gen Tie Banh rejected the extension of the olive branch, saying the government would not recognize the call as "the door for the Khmer Rouge had already been closed".

First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in an about-turn from his preelection position favouring negotiations, issued a statement which clearly snubbed the guerrillas.

With or without the Khmer Rouge, the Cambodian government has been developing the country with major financial assistance from the international community and has the legitimacy of being elected by the people and respected by other governments. "This time, the Cambodian government did not say anything about a ceasefire, which was its condition for talks the last time. This time, they said no at the beginning," the diplomat pointed out.

The Khmer Rouge, which signed a peace pact along with three other warring factions in 1991, has refused to adhere to the conditions of the agreement. They claim some clauses of the agreement concerning the presence of Vietnamese in the country have not been implemented.

One obstruction to peace talks is the Khmer Rouge's status as an outlawed rebel group and the Cambodian government's legitimate right to eliminate them. Other countries can do nothing to prevent the government from carrying out its task.

The government is well aware of this position and thus has made no attempt to begin dialogue with the guerrillas this time.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Ing Huot said in the Asean meeting in Brunei recently that the Khmer Rouge problem was no longer a threat to the regional and international communities, but simply "just an internal problem" for Cambodia, which he said could be solved within two years. Ing Huot told Asean foreign ministers that Cambodia was still seeking financial and moral support from other countries to help get the country back on its feet.

Phnom Penh-based Thai Ambassador Sakthip Krairoek said recently Cambodia had down played the Khmer Rouge problems, a stand which he said led it to reject the latest peace approach.

Sakthip said Cambodia had been progressing along the right track and many political and economic obstacles had been partially solved. "The Cambodian government has done its best to bring the country back to normality after decades of war and conflict," said the envoy, who is going to complete his two-year term as ambassador next month.

The legislation outlawing the Khmer Rouge provided for a period of amnesty for guerrillas who surrender to the government. The government under Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen would then arrange for their resettlement. However, the amnesty would not apply to leaders of the Khmer Rouge.

A senior Foreign Ministry official told The Nation that with the participation of Cambodia in the Asean forum as an observer, it had gained the recognition and respect of other countries. Furthermore, with Cambodia's guarantee that the Khmer Rouge problem is a domestic affair, all parties and countries concerned are ready to allow Cambodia to deal with the issue alone.

The official stressed that with the rejection of peace talks, military confrontation was inevitable and would surely result in the deaths of Cambodians, bringing sorrow and destruction.

Earlier, even King Sihanouk had tried to intervene by trying to encourage the warring factions to talk wherever they wanted. The King once proposed the talks should take place in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, only to find that both camps turned down the proposal.

Thai Foreign Minister Kasemsamoson Kasemsi recently said the Cambodian government had to become more aggressive in developing the country. "A government would gain the support of its people and even outlaw groups in the fight against poverty and hardship if it provided them with a full speed programme of economic and political development," he said.

Army Signs Contract With 3 Malaysian Companies

BK2308070195 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 21-22 Aug 95 p 4

[Report by Peyatro]

[FBIS Translated Text] Three more Malaysian companies, Agro Produce International Ltd., Pacific Plantation Ltd., and United Plantation Corporation Ltd., have signed business contracts on an 8,000 hectare-area at Stoeng Chral, which range from 50 to 70 years, with the General Staff Office during the afternoon of 17 August at the office of the General Staff.

Major General Li Senghong, deputy chief of staff in charge of Army development work nationwide, told journalists on the occasion that the three companies have agreed to invest millions of dollars on land leased from the General Staff Office to develop agriculture and plant palm oil trees, rubber, and beans, with the General Staff Office providing the best possible security in the development zone.

Many important points were fully agreed upon in the contract, including those stating that the three companies agree to take on people and troops as company staff and provide them with professional training and financial assistance and to assist the people or troops who work in the companies in the event of accidents.

In the contract, representatives of the three companies requested all ministries involved in developing the national economy to cooperate with the companies in the smooth development of the area, such as by facilitating the import and export of agricultural equipment.

Indonesia

Jakarta, Canberra Downplay Flag Burnings

BK2308030195 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans have similar principles on Indonesian-Australian relations following the burning of Indonesian flags in Australia and the retaliatory burning of Australian flags in Indonesia by a number of youths. Speaking to reporters during an Indonesia-Netherlands forum in Jakarta yesterday, Alatas said the two countries adhered to the principle that incidents caused by a few people should not be allowed to damage bilateral relations. In less than a month, there were at least three incidents in which Indonesian flags were burned in Australia and two incidents in which Australian flags were burned in Indonesia.

Paper: Suharto 'Unlikely To Step Down' in 1998

BK2208122195 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 20 Aug 95 p 6

[Article by Jakarta correspondent Paul Jacob: "Suharto likely to stay on beyond year 2000"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Political succession in Indonesia remains as unclear today as ever, with President Suharto unlikely to step down in 1998 when he ends his sixth five-year term as the country's leader.

Indeed, the retired general who came to power in 1966 after succeeding President Sukarno, has embarked on a new phase of his presidency, having forged a higher profile on the global stage.

The most senior leader in Asean, he is ending a three-year term as the Non-Aligned Movement chairman, had presided over an informal summit of Asia-Pacific leaders last November, and moved most recently to help end the Bosnian conflict

His age, 74, and the occasional concerns about his health have made the succession issue all the more important for the country and its political groups, including the Armed Forces (Abri) [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia], which has a dual role in society as a defence organisation and a socio-political force.

The backing of the military — the sole organisation with the network, personnel and resources straddling the whole country — remains a vital factor in any individual's bid to seek the presidency, including civilians who have assumed a higher profile on the political stage in recent years.

In 1993, Information Minister Harmoko, for example, became the first civilian to head the ruling party in its 29-year history. Analysts acknowledge that the absence of a clear-cut successor can create uncertainty for some, including foreign investors with a long-term perspective.

That the question of succession remains the main issue on the political calendar, according to Muslim intellectual Abdurrahman Wahid, is because interest groups are "competing for control of government".

"They are hoping to place themselves to take over the reins and shape the practice of politics in a post-Suharto period. To achieve that, they have to act early".

The military aside, there are other groups in the wings notably those representing Muslim and civilian interests, such as Research and Technology Minister B.J. Habibie's link with the Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals Association, which feel that civilians must now take their place in the sun.

Indeed, the ascendancy of civilians in the new Cabinet of 1993 and at the Golkar [Functional Group] ruling party leadership elections, was a sign that a significant restructuring of politics in the country was underway.

It showed that the armed forces, although still active and present, was being transformed to playing a supporting role to a largely civilian national leadership.

"In Suharto's mind, this is not about whether civilians win or the military loses. It is about who can best serve his purposes at any given time," says political analyst Burhan Magenda.

Concerned over the 1992 general election results, in which Golkar lost 5 per cent of the vote and 17 seats in Parliament, President Suharto moved "to revitalise Golkar as his primary machine for modernisation and development", Mr Magenda said.

Further erosion of support for Golkar at the 1997 polls could affect the successful implementation of and support for President Suharto's policies to take Indonesia into the industrialised era.

It could have an impact on the 1998 presidential election when he may decide to stay on or hand over to an approved successor.

The shift to reliance on civilians indicates that he has not been able to rely on the military to the extent he had been able to in the past.

This is in part because of public perceptions, especially among younger Indonesians forming the broad base of the 1997 electorate that Abri's security-minded approach was out of step with the times and that the military ought to focus more on its defence duties rather than dominate in politics.

Abri in its current state is also an organisation in flux. Younger officers from the military academy in the '70s and '80s form the bulk of the officer corps.

In short, it is shorn of senior men able to play the same kind of political role at the national level that was a characteristic of their predecessors and the military's founding-generation.

"The generational change has affected their capability. What we have now is a reverse in power centres. Civilians once under the umbrella of the military have come into their own. They have gained experience," a analyst with close ties to the military said.

"But Suharto is not, and will not make the mistake of, forsaking Abri. He recognises its ties with the grassroots and its historical links with the people."

Under the current leadership of Abri chief Feisal Tanjung and army chief R. Hartono — both Suharto loyalists — the military has acquiesced and has taken a back seat.

There was no untoward reaction, for example, when the president moved to enact laws that would reduce the number of military representatives in Parliament from its present 100 seats to 75 in 1997.

More assertive civilians at the helm in Golkar and in government, a compliant military, Mr Harmoko's ability to influence the media, Mr Habibie's pull with Muslim intellectuals, and business conglomerates with sway over the economy have thus become the forces behind President Suharto's push towards the next election.

The approach does show, however, that while pieces on the chessboard have been moved around, very little has ultimately changed in the way politics is played out in the country.

It reinforces the notion that the "top-down" system with views emanating from a single power source — President Suharto — are intact and will continue.

ABRI Denies Rights Violated in Irian Jaya

BK2108070895 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 21 Aug 95 pp 1, 10

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jakarta, 20 Aug, MERDEKA — Brigadier General Suwarno Adiwijoyo, head of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia [ABRI] Information Center, has dismissed as untrue reports that ABRI has violated human rights through a series of alleged shootings of local civilians in the town of Timika, Fakfak District, Irian Jaya. "That is a distortion of facts because ABRI does not conduct combat operations in Irian Jaya. The ABRI is sympathetically conducting territorial operations by developing and promoting the prosperity of the local community," the head of the ABRI Information Center told MERDEKA on 20 August.

According to Suwarno, there would have certainly been reports if there had been any violations during the operations. Any violators would have been investigated, and ABRI would certainly have handled the cases. He said that ABRI has rules against violations, as well as military prosecutors and tribunals to try personnel who commit wrongdoings. He admitted that members of the GPK [Security Disturbance Movement] had shot local residents. Some GPK members even openly showed their true identities by raising a Free Papua flag while conducting a series of shootings. Consequently, many local residents fled to the jungles.

The head of the ABRI Information Center was surprised at an allegation that ABRI shot at a bus carrying civilians to Freeport, a mining company. "ABRI has interests in the company because ABRI and the company have cooperated in developing the local community," he said.

He said Freeport has also lent ABRI vehicles to pursue GPK members in the jungles. Thus, ABRI and Freeport have cooperated in the development of the community. "Surprisingly, there was an allegation that ABRI had shot at a Freeport bus. That is impossible," Suwarno said. He said that Freeport is a U.S.-owned company, and the United States demands an improvement of the human right situation. Thus, it is impossible for us to commit this improper act.

Militant

Suwarno added that the number of GPK members has further dwindled; however, the few remaining members harass civilians. For example, they ambush people who want to work in Freeport. "As they are disturbers, they consequently commit disturbances. The fewer they are, the more militant they will be," the former chief of staff of the Third Siliwangi Military Region Command said. He added that it was not ABRI that had violated human rights; rather, it was the GPK that had shot and ambushed the civilians.

According to the ABRI spokesman, if any GPK members had been shot, the ABRI would have checked whether there had been procedural mistakes or mistakes of excess. We always receive reports if there are such matters. When asked whether ABRI would set up an honorary officers council or an honorary military council similar to those in East Timor if there actually were violations, the head of the ABRI Information Center said: "That will depend on a preliminary investigation after we receive a report to determine whether there were mistakes."

Pitting One Against Another

He urged the people not to be misled by rumors that had been deliberately unleashed by those who wanted to discredit ABRI, the government, and the Indonesian people. Such rumors have been frequently unleashed abroad. Accordingly, we must be vigilant against such reports.

Suwarno said there have been no problems with the Armed Forces of Papua New Guinea. Relations between the two armed forces are good, and border posts have been set up. There are even family ties. Traditional trade exists. Many Papua New Guineans go shopping in Irian Jaya.

According to the head of the ABRI Information Center, the GPK seems to dislike good relations between the two countries. They try to strain relations between the two countries. After committing disturbances, they will normally flee to Papua New Guinea. They want the Indonesian Army to pursue them into the neighboring country and to then accuse our army of border violations.

They will do likewise if they are pursued by the Papua New Guinean Army. Thus, it is very clear that they are trying to pit Indonesia against Papua New Guinea. Indeed, it is difficult to pursue them because Irian Jaya is mountainous and forested. [passage omitted]

Army Pledges To Continue Cambodian Military Aid

BK2308122595 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 0817 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cilacap, 23 Aug (ANTARA) — The Indonesian Government will continue to provide aid, including nonlethal military aid to the Cambodian Government to facilitate the administration of the newly established government.

"Indonesia is now the only country still providing aid to Cambodia after the signing of the Paris Agreement," Lieutenant General Suyono, chief of general staff of the Indonesian Armed Forces told an ANTARA correspondent in Cilacap on Wednesday morning, after installing 223 Cambodian Government troops who completed their commando training hosted by the Indonesian Special Forces. The 223 Cambodian troops completed the seven-month-long commando training which included training in the sea, swamps, and mountainous forests. [passage omitted detailed background of training]

Present at the ceremony were Lt. Gen. Ke Kimyan, chief of general staff of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces; Colonel Nop Borith, commander of the Cambodian Special Forces, and other high-ranking Cambodian military officials.

Philippines

Ramos Says Australian Trade Ties To Improve

BK2108031095 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 20 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos expressed confidence that his five-day visit to Australia will help to correct the wide trade disparity between the Philippines and Australia. The president said that trade between the Philippines and Australia was $720 million, and Philippine exports were only $125 million. According to Ramos, Australia and the Philippines are creating a new partnership for the development and progress of the economies of the two countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The president also assured the Australians that the Philippine 2000 program will bring the Philippines an improved economic status by the year 2000.

Included in several agreements that the Philippine Government signed with an Australian firm is an agreement to strengthen the Philippine Navy's capability. Included in the agreement with this shipping firm is the sharing of shipbuilding technology with the Philippines. The agreement was signed during the president's visit to Melbourne.

The president also called on the Philippine community in Australia to invest in the country. The president said that the Philippines has already improved in the past three years and is just waiting for the Filipinos in Australia and other countries to see it for themselves.

Military Continues Watch on Spratly Islands

BK2308092795 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Aug 95 p SB-4

[Report by Cena De Guzman]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gen. Arturo T. Enrile, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), disclosed that the AFP continues to monitor the Kalayaan Group of Islands "but without any acts that would increase some tension there (Spratly Group of Islands)."

It can be recalled that during the recently concluded two-day talks between the Philippines and China, both countries agreed to thresh out their differences through "friendly consultations" so as not to impair their bilateral ties.

Enrile also said that there is no need to stop their monitoring activities at the Kalayaan group of islands. "Our monitoring activities is a normal activity," Enrile said stressing that "we are committed in the AFP to ensure that what has been agreed upon between the two countries (Philippines and China) will be followed to the letter."

A code of conduct was also agreed upon between the two countries at the moment to ensure that peace and stability would be maintained. Both the Philippines and China also threshed out their differences over the Mischief Reef incident and discussed several measures, including a code of conduct, to avoid escalating the tension further in the disputed Spratly Islands.

Thailand

Navy Chief on Centralized Armed Forces Budget

BK2208042595 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Aug 95 p A 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Navy chief yesterday guardedly supported Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's plan to centralize budgeting for the armed forces. Adm [Admiral] Prachet Siridet said Chawalit's idea was basically "good", but not necessarily workable. The Army, however, remains firmly against the plan, according to a high-ranking source.

Each branch of the armed forces the Army, Navy and Air Force at the moment presents its own budget demand to the defence minister under a prearranged formula, and they are usually approved.

Chawalit recently proposed that the system be scrapped and that authority to allot funds be given to the defence minister. "It's only an idea a good one, but how would this benefit each of the armed forces? " said Prachet. "There needs to be discussions on the details," he said. He pointed out that the current system had led to competition among the armed forces, with each branch trying to get as much of the budget as possible to buy weapons and to develop their forces. The Navy chief added that studies were needed on any proposed change in the budget allotment system, adding that "changes cannot take place overnight".

A high-ranking Army source yesterday expressed opposition to Chawalit's plan, which he doubted would be successful. "Who would back off? Each of the armed forces has always tried to get as much money as possible," he said. The source warned of more pressure and lobbying if Chawalit's plan materialized. He added that the armed forces had joint meetings to discuss their "strategic plans" for arms purchases. "It's not as if everybody just goes their own way."

The Army now gets the biggest share of the annual defence budget, because it has more personnel.

Army Chief Says Defense Minister 'Must Listen'

BK2308053895 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] No matter who the defence minister is, he has to listen to suggestions and gather views from leaders of the three armed forces before making a final decision on the ministry's budget allocation, Assistant Army Chief Chettha Thanacharo said yesterday.

Gen Chettha made his remark in response to Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's proposal on budget-sharing among the three armed forces over weapons procurement. Under the plan, if one of the three forces happens to urgently require a budget increase to finance the purchase of weapons, it can seek funds to meet the shortage from the other two forces.

The existing system states that each branch of the armed forces has full freedom in managing its budget without having to share it with its counterparts. Commenting on the proposed new arms procurement, the assistant army chief said the proposal was merely a guideline raised by Gen Chawalit during a recent Defence Ministry meeting.

The Army, said Gen Chettha, has to look into details of the proposal as well as to listen to the views of the majority on whether they would prefer to switch to the new system. There are both weak and strong points in both the current and new arms procurement systems, said Gen Chettha, but declined to elaborate on the issue.

On a suggestion that the Defence Minister, who is also leader of the New Aspiration Party, would possibly exert his political influence to have his way, Gen Chettha refused comment, saying the new system was simply designed for all armed forces to manage their budgets more effectively.

The proposal, however, has yet to be studied in detail, said Gen Chettha. "The Defence Minister, regardless of which party he belongs to, has to listen to the chiefs of the armed forces on arms procurement. I can assure you that the new system did not pose a problem for the Army, but what we need is the best solution on the matter.

"It would be better if the Government purchased the weapons for us. The issue is: the Army wants to get the weapons it needs and the delivery must meet the schedule. The problem is not who the arms procurer is," said Gen Chettha.

King Meets Envoys, Discusses Traffic Situation

Says Politicians Part of Problem

BK1808143795 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 18 Aug 95 p 15

[FBIS Translated Text] At 1750 on 17 August at Chitlada Palace, the king granted an audience to 77 foreign-based Thai ambassadors and consul generals who were on a visit to Bangkok to attend a seminar during 17-19 August and to receive policy briefings and information on the actual situation and on national political, economic, and social development. On this occasion, the king talked with them about the traffic problem and solutions to it in accordance with his projects.

He said: "The country's image is not particularly good. I will bring up an aspect of the image that will not turn into an issue, because everyone is already aware of it. Actually, it is not a political problem. The political problems are for you to think over yourselves. But an existing problem has been turned into a political problem: the traffic problem. It is an important problem because it makes foreign countries avoid investing here and deters foreigners from visiting. Perhaps, in a way, it is good that foreigners do not come to invest here because when they make investments, they take advantage of us. Lower levels of investment may be preferable. This could be another problem, but it is one which I will pass over without comment. With the traffic being so bad, tourists may not want to visit. Having large numbers of tourists may not be so good either, but I will not comment on that.

"The congested traffic is a complicated problem. I want to say that people have to spend between 2-10 hours on the road going to work. This decreases their efficiency. The day before yesterday (15 August) I went to see someone. The meeting place was not here but elsewhere. He came from his house, which was not that far away, and it took him two hours. So he complained that the royal project caused him to have to spend six hours travelling. I had to explain that it was not the royal project but other projects which caused him to have to take six hours. I met him again two days afterward. He said today it took him one hour from the same house. So I told him he was part of the royal project. He laughed. What is the royal project? It is to allow vehicles to move. It may sound unremarkable, but cars have to move to be called traffic. If they do not move then it is not traffic. There are people who are mistaken in thinking that cars have to move for traffic to flow. At times there have been reports that traffic has flowed very well; cars were moving. I asked how fast they were moving and was told they were moving at 80, 90, and 100 km per hour.

That is not proper traffic. City speeds should not exceed 60 km per hour. However, the way it is now, it is either 80 or 0 km. In fact, it is sufficient to move 10 km per hour, which will enable travel times of only one hour. They can bear one hour of travel time. To travel at 80 km per hour and have an accident would cause the road to be clogged and the speed would be reduced to zero km per hour. This is a point that no one thinks about or emphasizes."

"Therefore, the royal project is to enable cars to move, not remain stationary at 0 km per hour and not to move at 100 km per hour. It allows cars to move. Some people, almost all of them, say the king stays in the palace, does not come outside much or roam around, and that I am not the type who roams around. So, how does he know which areas are congested. How does he know what is what? It comes from information technology. I get my information from information technology, the radio, aerial photographs, and reports from various units and the people. At times I listen directly, on the phone, and from newspapers. If these reports are not [as published] correct, I can make my assessment that there are enough roads in Bangkok. The traffic problem is not limited just to Bangkok, but we are talking about Bangkok. There are enough roads for an average amount of cars — I do not mean all the cars there are in Bangkok. Some people may have 20 or 30 cars. But each of them has only two arms and legs and therefore cannot drive 10 cars simultaneously. He is not a Thotsakan [a character in Ramayana tale], who although he has 20 hands, has only one head."

"Therefore, people who have more than one car do not compound the traffic problem. We must look at the number of cars on the road at a given time. We will see that there are empty spaces on the road and that in many places there are lines of cars that stretch several kilometers. This is because the cars are stuck behind spots where the empty spaces ahead are not being used. They either park or make u-turns. Making a u-turn uses several lanes of the road. A bus takes up three lanes when it makes a u-turn. There are people who want to solve the traffic problem by allowing only buses on the roads. If there are only buses, and private cars are not allowed, I think traffic will back up, because no one will be able to reach their destination as the buses will spend their time making u-turns. There is also transport by 10-wheel trucks. At present trucks from upcountry coming to Bangkok destinations — the 22 July Circle or Khlong Toei — cannot reach them without passing through the heart of Bangkok. This is a hint regarding a solution to the traffic problem. One solution is to make traffic flow by orderly one-way or two-way arrangements and to make vehicles that enter and leave the city able to do so with the least amount of time.

"I want to talk about policies a little; don't get angry yet. The government divides the traffic issue into two parts — the city part and the outskirts. The leader of one party handles the inner city traffic, while the leader of another party handles traffic in the outskirts. These two parties have their own leaders and secretaries general. They have made many inspection trips. In the end, people living on the outskirts may be able to travel easily around the outskirts of the city, while the people in the city may be able to move around conveniently in the city. However, people from the outskirts, such as Putthamonthon, cannot benefit from the operations of the leader of the party managing inner city traffic. There are no parties to facilitate these travelers. I compare this matter to a boat and a water container. A boat travels on water and water is prevented from entering the boat. A container is used to hold water, keeping it from spilling out. The two parties perform as if they were boat and water containers. They only talk, talk, talk and argue, argue, argue. It is not good to speak this way because it amounts to making political remarks. Some might be angry with me, asking why the king is talking about political matters.

"In fact, the king has a right to make political remarks. He is a Thai citizen and has his rights and freedom under the constitution. Each of you is under the constitution, and so is the king. Everyone has freedom of speech and it is in the constitution. I am using my freedom under the constitution to say what I have said. If anyone wants to sue me, they can try and come up with a charge. I will accept the charge. This part will be in parentheses. But solving the traffic problem comes down to this. It is impossible for the activities and systems to solve the country's problem by political means, regardless of how many reforms are made. But everyone must pitch in. That is why I am speaking to you. Everyone has ideas and must help. In your invitation you wanted advice. What I have said is not advice but merely a chat about foreign affairs. I talked about traffic being an important issue. You asked about the traffic problem and a possible future solution, so I related to you what has been done..."

According to a reporter, after the king's remarks were broadcast, hundreds of people as well as members of the media phoned the Thai News Agency for copies of the remarks for redistribution, preventing the news agency's fax machines from issuing copies rapidly enough.

Many people phoned the MATICHON editorial section to appeal to the Public Relations Department to distribute the king's remarks.

Prime Minister To Seek Advice

BK1908101995 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Aug 95 pp A1, A3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha has asked for a Royal audience so that His Majesty [HM] the King can advise him how to better coordinate his government in handling Bangkok traffic problems, according to sources.

The sources close to the prime minister said Banhan panicked while watching the King's taped criticism of the government on a TV news programme on Thursday night. "Prime Minister Banhan immediately sent for several of his advisers. He asked them to analyze the criticism made by the King and decide whether it is directed against his government," one of the sources said.

The advisers agreed that the monarch was indeed reprimanding the government in general and Deputy Prime Ministers Samak Sunthorawet and Thaksin Chinnawat in particular. According to the sources, MP Kanchana Sinlapa-acha, Banhan's daughter, saw the beginning of the taped comments by the King on TV and quickly called her father to come and watch. "The prime minister has already sought an audience with HM the King to seek royal advice on how to tackle the traffic problems. It is still not known when he will be granted an audience, if at all," one source said.

The sources said Banhan would call a private meeting with Thaksin and Samak to discuss possibly reassigning or redefining their work and the scope of their responsibilities.

The King on Thursday [17 August] said he would like to know why the government let two former rival parties share responsibility for solving the traffic crisis. The Phalang Tham Party [PDP] is in charge of inner Bangkok while Prachakon Thai oversees projects in the suburbs. The monarch said he believed the arrangement would not work.

Banhan, asked to comment yesterday, said he would find a way to improve coordination at points linking inner Bangkok and the suburbs. "I humbly accept the Royal advice. I will study current programmes in detail and find a way to unify the efforts to solve the traffic problems," he said. Banhan said his government is fully committed to solving the traffic problems but it also needs the full cooperation of the public to make that possible.

Samak, speaking to reporters, said he and Thaksin would work out a way to comply with the King's wish to see better coordination of their efforts. "The King's command will be strictly followed," the Prachakon Thai leader said.

Samak said, however, that he and Thaksin had no problems working together on the traffic problems. He described as satisfactory the coordination between Thaksin and himself under the present arrangement. The Prachakon Thai leader said he would seek air time on government-run television networks to report on progress made on the outer ring road under his responsibility.

Thaksin yesterday insisted that the Phalang Tham and Prachakon Thai parties would continue to cooperate on traffic issues. "The two parties should cooperate tc the best of our ability, as if there were no divisions among the coalition parties," Thaksin said at Government House. He said all Cabinet members must respectfully heed the King's advice, which he regarded as a "heavenly blessing".

PDP leader Thaksin said he believed all Cabinet members would be more cooperative following the King's suggestions. He said he normally discussed traffic problems with Samak on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He would from now on also meet Samak on Mondays to ensure better cooperation.

On Thursday, the King, speaking to Thai foreign ambassadors at Chitlada Palace, said in part: "Their leaders keep talking, talking, talking and opposing each other." He was apparently referring to squabbling among coalition partners.

Banhan Package To Promote Economic Stability

BK2308060095 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 95 p 15

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Government has formed a package of ways to help the country cope with economic expansion and to tackle short-term economic problems for long-term stability. The package was surprisingly proposed by Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha — not an economic minister. The package was endorsed by the Council of Economic Ministers at its first meeting under this Government.

Mr Banhan said to maintain economic growth with stability, inflation must be controlled at a manageable level, in line with the growth rate. He also he said the Government must be strict in fiscal and monetary disciplines by emphasising expenditure on only productive items.

Domestic savings must be promoted, particularly household savings, while trade and current-account deficits will have to be solved.

Infrastructure must be developed in rural areas. Regional areas could be modernised by distributing investment and industry to the provinces, while agricultural productivity must be boosted.

The Government must decentralise authority to allow local communities to manage local natural resources and decentralisation of the fiscal authority.

Mr Banhan said the Thai economy had been more open than international trade, which would play a larger role in the overall economic system. Export performance will be a major factor in strengthening the country's economy.

Thailand's international trade has faced tough competition, which affects both competitiveness and living standards. Therefore, Mr Banhan said the Government would have to help develop competitiveness with concerted policies such as labour skill development and import tariff restructuring.

The Government will also use international trade talks in boosting competitiveness, exploring new markets for goods and services. Mr Banhan said Thailand should help develop the economies of neighbouring countries, particularly Indochina and Burma, as they have high potential.

They have large populations, are rich in natural resources and are in a stage of changing economic structure, which means they need help, he said. Economic assistance would particularly benefit people of Thailand's Northeast and would help plans to become the trade and financial centre of the region.

Mr Banhan also set guidelines to revamp the bureaucratic system. All government agencies must move in concert to cope with development. All actions of government agencies must be unique, to solve people's problems effectively. He said economic development must not affect the environment and natural resources must be used optimally. Incentives will be introduced to encourage environmental conservation while penalty clauses will be enforced for those damaging the environment, he said.

Premier Pressured To Give Up Interior Post

BK2208043495 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Aug 95 pp A1, A3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Deputy Chat Thai leader Watthana Atsawahem said yesterday Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha will eventually have to hand over the Interior portfolio to a member of the party who is not already in the Cabinet.

Watthana's comment suggested new pressure could be brewing for Banhan to quit doubling as interior minister. As the Cabinet already had the maximum 49 members allowed by law, one of them would be dropped, Watthana said. The Samut Prakan MP, who is not in the Cabinet, declined to speculate who that would be. "What I can guarantee is that there will be only small changes, not a big Cabinet reshuffle," he said.

It has been speculated that Chat Thai Party chairman Praman Adireksan could take the post, currently being filled by the prime minister. Banhan decided to double "temporarily" as interior minister after failing to find a suitable person for the powerful seat.

Watthana said Banhan should not also be interior minister any longer than absolutely necessary because "he already has many things to do as prime minister". Asked if he would accept the post if it was offered, Watthana said: "I could assume the post immediately. I have overseen many ministries before."

He insisted he was innocent of United States allegations linking him to drug traffickers. "I have been accused for one full year. And they (the accusers) have not produced evidence to back their claims. Everybody knows the charges were only a smear campaign," the veteran politician said. Watthana and veteran party politician Narong Wongwan have been denied visas by the US on suspicion of links with drug traffickers.

Party sources said they believed Praman, the former Chat Thai leader, would be able to tone down differences between warring factions vying for the powerful post. Watthana, secretary-general Sano Thianthong and the party's powerful Thoet Thai faction have being competing vigorously for the portfolio. Thoet Thai is led by Narong, who failed in the July general election.

Watthana yesterday rejected speculation that there would be a dispute in the party if the Interior portfolio did not go to Thoet Thai.

Meanwhile, Kasem Rungthanakiat, secretary to Deputy Interior Minister Suchat Tancharoen, yesterday rejected reports that Banhan would offer the post to Suchat. "The rumours were aimed at causing a rift in Chat Thai. We don't want the interior minister post. We just want to hold on to the deputy interior minister's post," he said.

Kasem and Suchat are both members of the Thoet Thai faction. Kasem added that his group would not push for more responsibilities in the ministry. "It depends on the prime minister. We won't ask for it." He also responded emotionally when asked about rumours that Deputy Finance Minister Newin Chitchop, also a Thoet Thai member, would be replaced in a Cabinet reshuffle. "Did Newin do anything wrong? He was successful in talks with the leaser of the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, which could bring Bt 5 billion into the state coffers," Kasem said.

Wirakon Khamprakop, secretary to the interior minister, yesterday declined to comment on reported disputes within Chat Thai over the portfolio. He said Banhan and Watthana had reached an accord when the government was forming.

Official Urges Lao Refugees To Return Home

BK2008124095 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 20 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lao displaced persons remaining in Thailand have been urged to voluntarily return home so that they will be provided with plots of land to earn their living by the Lao Government. The call was made by Deputy Secretary General of the National Security Council Khachatphai Burutphat during his recent visit to the Ban Na Pho Camp in the northeastern province of Nakhon Phanom.

Thousands of Lao displaced persons have returned home under the voluntary repatriation program. About 5,000 Lao refugees still remain at the Ban Na Pho Camp. Mr. Khachatphai told the Lao refugees that the Thai Government had no policy to allow their settlement in Thailand and third countries would no longer accept them. He said the Ban Na Pho Camp had already been closed, and these Lao people were regarded as displaced persons. Those who move against the repatriation program will face legal action.

Mr. Khachatphai said financial support from international organizations for displaced persons would end soon, therefore they urged them to return home voluntarily.

Vietnam Urges Laos To Give Highway 9 Priority

BK2208043095 Bangkok BANGKOK POST (INSIDE INDOCHINA Supplement) in English 22 Aug 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vietnamese support brings development of Road 9 in Laos closer to reality. Hanoi aims to convince Vientiane to make the project top priority. Vietnam's Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet told visiting Finance Minister Surakiat Sathianthai that Laos had agreed to build the road through its southern province of Savannakhet.

The road, part of a transport network supported by the Asian Development Bank, will link with Mukdahan province in Thailand, if a bridge is built across the Mekong River, and Quang Tri province in Vietnam. The 250-kilometre road will connect with the port of Danang in Vietnam.

Surakiat last Tuesday [15 August] completed an official three-day visit to Vietnam at the invitation of Finance Minister Ho Te. He held one hour of talks with the Vietnamese premier.

Road 9 is included in Laos' plans to develop roads nationwide by the year 2000. But it not top priority. Vietnam wants Laos to change its plan which gave priority to Road 8 linking Khammouane province, opposite Nakhon Phanom in Thailand, with Bolikhamsai. The road would connect with Ha Tinh province in Vietnam and lead to the port of Vinh in neighbouring Nghe An province.

The Laotian government prefers to build Road 8 first because it is the shortest link between its capital and a sea port. The road will also help projects in the area which is rich in natural resources. However, a Thai official said: "Road 9 is a strategic route with good logistics at Danang and tourism potential at Hue in Vietnam."

Thailand fully supports improvement of Road 9 to link the three countries. A bridge across the Mekong River might be funded by the Japanese government. The project was initiated by the Chatchai Chunhawan government, ousted by a coup in 1991. Surakiat was one of his advisers.

The first bridge linking Thailand and Laos was opened in April last year. The Asian Development Bank has conducted feasibility studies for the second bridge in five areas in Mukdahan and in other areas including Nakhon Phanom.

Surakiat discussed the proposed Thailand Economic Development Assistance Fund with Vietnamese leaders. The fund would also be partly used for construction of an infrastructure network in Indochina. The fund, of which 350 million baht will come from Thailand's budget and US$200 million from national foreign reserves, will provide loans tied to promoting roles for Thai companies and equipment in development of infrastructure, including road links through Laos to Vietnam.

PRC Official Visits Joint Chamber of Commerce

BK2008142295 Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese 19 Aug 95 p 10

[FBIS Translated Text] Zheng Mingru, chairman of the Thai-Chinese Chamber of Commerce [TCCC], Vice Chairman Ding Jiajun, Secretary Li Jiannan, and Vice Secretary Xu Jiansheng received Li Shizhong, Chinese vice chemical industry minister, and his seven-member delegation at the TCCC Meeting Hall at 1400 on 16 August.

Vice Minister Li Shizong thanked Zheng Mingru for inviting him to visit Thailand. He said that after meeting and contacting friends in industrial and commercial circles over the past few days, he felt that there are broad prospects for bilateral cooperation with Thailand. He also felt that the Thai Chinese people are patriotic. They are interested in the development of their motherland. They are enthusiastic about investing in China. Vice Minister Li Shizhong believed that cooperation between the two countries in the chemical field will be further strengthened in the future.

Chairman Zheng Mingru, on behalf of the TCCC, warmly welcomed Vice Minister Li Shizhong's visit to Thailand. Recalling his past contacts with leaders of the Chemical Ministry, Zheng Mingru said the chemical industry is the mother of industrial circles. Most industries cannot develop without chemical products. Bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the chemical industry has made great progress since the establishment of Sino-Thai diplomatic relations 20 years ago. China's chemical machinery and equipment has reached advanced levels. More people like to use Chinese-made equipment.

During the talks, Chairman Zheng Mingru and Vice Minister Li Shizhong expressed high hopes for future bilateral cooperation in the chemical industry.

Government Supports Cambodia ASEAN Entry

BK2208045395 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Aug 95 p A 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thailand has offered to do all it can to help Cambodia make a smooth transition towards full integration into Asean, Foreign Minister Kasemsamoson Kasemsi said yesterday.

In an effort to help Cambodia cope with regional developments and work towards national stability, Kasemsamoson said Thailand would support Phnom Penh in whatever requirements it thought necessary.

Speaking before his meeting with Cambodian Ambassador to Thailand Roland Eng, Kasemsamoson stressed his visit to Phnom Penh was aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and reassuring the country of Thailand's support. "I think it is time we consolidated relations between the two countries," he said.

Cambodia is among the major recipients under Thai International Cooperations Programme, the government's economic and technical assistance programme earmarked for less-fortunate countries.

Kasemsamoson will make his first bilateral visit to Cambodia between September 3-4, during which he will meet first and second prime ministers Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen. An audience with King Norodom Sihanouk has yet to be confirmed.

Eng later told The Nation that Kasemsamoson had reaffirmed Thailand's commitment to assisting Cambodia's integration into Asean.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Ing Hout stated at the Asean Ministerial Meeting in Brunei last month that Cambodia would take two years to attain full membership of the organization.

Kasemsamoson said he would ask Japan to increase it's assistance to Cambodia when he meets with Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono today. "Japan is in the position to help Cambodia adapt itself to the changing regional environment," said the minister.

Kono who is arriving for a one-day visit will meet Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha and Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan and later attend a dinner hosted by Kasemsamoson. He will leave for Phnom Penh tomorrow and return to Bangkok the same day to board a flight to Sydney for an Australian visit.

Thailand is presently the Asean coordinator for consultation with Japan, which is among Asean's seven dialogue partners.

Last year, Asean set up a working group comprising Asean economic officials and representatives from Japan's Ministry for International Trade and Industry to coordinate an assistance plan, for the development of Indochina and Burma.

Prosecutors Object to MP's Extradition Appeal

BK1908101495 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Aug 95 p A2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Public prosecutors yesterday submitted their formal objection to former Chat Thai MP Thanong Siriprichaphong's appeal against the Criminal Court's sanctioning of his extradition to the United States. In their submission to the Appeals Court the prosecutors described as untrue and irrelevant Thanong's claims that his extradition would compromise Thailand's sovereignty and was simply against the law.

The Criminal Court recently ruled in favour of a US request for Thanong's extradition to face marijuana trafficking charges, but said he must be set free if the extradition did not take place.

The prosecutors also disputed Thanong's claim that there was no Cabinet resolution endorsing his extradition. The submission quoted a key prosecution witness, Cabinet Secretary-General Witsanu Khrua- ngam, as saying "clearly" during the trial that the Chuan Cabinet resolved to extradite Thanong.

The Appeals Court recently accepted a 22-page appeal submitted by Thanong's lawyer.

If the court upholds the Criminal Court ruling, Thanong would be the first Thai national to be extradited under the Thai-US treaty.

"It is against our tradition and culture to send a Thai to face trial abroad, because Thailand is an independent country," Thanong's lawyer Prachum Thongmi said recently.

The United States is seeking Thanong's extradition to face charges filed in a California court alleging he smuggled more than 45 tonnes of marijuana into the US between 1977 and 1987. Thanong, a former MP for Nakhon Phanom province, denies the charges. He resigned his House seat last July after the US revealed details of the previously secret 1991 indictment.

Documents from the California court allege that Thanong's 10-year smuggling operation earned him more than $10 million.

Vietnam

Assembly Delegation Visits Singapore, Indonesia

BK1908095895 Hanoi VNA in English
0640 GMT 19 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA August 19 — A delegation of the National Assembly [NA] led by Mr. Hoang Bich Son, member of the Standing Committee and head of the NA External Relations Commission, today concluded its ten days working visit to Singapore and Indonesia.

While in Singapore, Mr. Hoang Bich Son and his entourage held talks with the deputy speaker, the head of the Defence and External Relations Commission of the Singaporean Parliament, the general secretary of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) and other parliamentary officials. The two sides discussed in a frank and open manner the friendship, and discussed the bilateral and multi-sided cooperative ties among the legislatures of the countries in the region as well as in the world.

While receiving Mr. Hoang Bich Son, Singaporean parliamentary speaker and AIPO president Mr. Tan So Choon expressed his satisfaction at Vietnam's becoming a full-member of ASEAN, and said that both the AIPO leading board and leaders of the legislatures of ASEAN countries warmly welcomed the Vietnamese National Assembly's forthcoming membership in the AIPO at its General Assembly's session to be held in late September in Singapore. He stressed that, with the important position and role in its country, the Vietnamese National Assembly would make substantial contribution to the development of cooperation for peace, security, and stability in the region and in the world.

Taking this opportunity, Mr. Son conveyed NA Chairman Nong Duc Manh's invitation to Mr. Tan So Choon to visit Vietnam early next month. The Singaporean speaker expressed his thanks for the invitation and said he believed that his coming visit to Vietnam would make a practical contribution to further consolidating and developing the friendly and cooperative ties between Vietnam and Singapore.

In his working tour of Indonesia, Mr. Son met with leaders of Indonesia's National Assembly, the ASEAN general secretary and the secretariat of the AIPO standing committee, who all hailed the achievements of the Vietnamese people in their renovation and development of their economy, and highly valued the fine friendship between Vietnam and Indonesia.

Commentary Hails Brunei ASEAN Regional Forum

BK1808141695 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 14 Aug 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Important consecutive events took place in Brunei in late July and early August. They were Vietnam admission into ASEAN, the 28th ASEAN Foreign Ministerial Meeting, ASEAN Regional Forum, and the annual Post-Ministerial Conference. The ASEAN Regional Forum has obtained considerable progress and created a new security model, here is our comment:

While the first ASEAN Regional Forum took place in Bangkok last year in three hours only, the second forum spent the whole day discussing regional security. As Asia and the Pacific will be playing a major role in global economy next century, lasting development demands a firm security and a stable political environment. Therefore, ASEAN countries with strong economy are now leading the way in security building. This was clearly demonstrated in Brunei. Nineteen countries took part in the forum including seven ASEAN countries plus the United States, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Russia, China, Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar [Burma]. They took another step in forming a diversified security dialogue mechanism.

The second Brunei regional forum put forth a five-point theory on regional security with an aim to maintain the environment of peace, prosperity, and stability in Asia and the Pacific. The forum said security meant not only military security but also political, economic, and social security.

Different from the Bangkok forum, Brunei has defined its goals and steps. They were to build confidence, develop diplomatic relations, and discuss details of settling conflicts. These steps were welcomed by the participants. Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said: The forum was a good mechanism to seek a new model for Asia and the Pacific. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said: The Brunei forum could play a positive role in decreasing tension, building confidence, and preventing conflicts. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also said that the forum was carried out in the spirit of mutual respect, equality, and cooperation.

The framework of the Brunei forum was still very simple but it was very clear. It was the first time in Asia and the Pacific that such a diversified forum discussed different opinions on security of the region. That's why the second ASEAN Regional Forum was a basis to build a diversified security mechanism in Asia and the Pacific.

Hanoi Banks Seek To Join International Market

BK2008093695 Hanoi VNA in English
0610 GMT 20 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA August 20 — Hanoi banks have begun integration into the world financial market by joining in the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, and the Master Card payment system.

A number of Hanoi banks offer other common payment systems in the world such as traveler's cheque, Visa card, and VCB [expansion unknown] card. They also do transactions through fax and express remittance.

As a result in the first half of this year 18 Hanoi banks purchased a sum of foreign currencies equivalent to VND [Vietnamese dong] 6,114 billion (USD [U.S. dollars] 560 million) of which VND 5,955 billion (USD 540 million) have been sold. This represents a foreign currency trade increase of 9.75 percent over the same period last year. The total turnover of foreign currencies was USD 100,572,000.

In this step by step integration into world and regional banking systems, Hanoi banks are rapidly opening more services to expand their external relations, especially international payment. They plan to act as agents for foreign banks with an aim to attract more foreign capital from credit and loan, and increase the sum of foreign payment through Hanoi banks.

In addition, Hanoi banks have mobilised VND 7,441 billion (USD 676 million) so far this year, an increase of 54 percent compared with the same period last year.

Oil Contract Signed With U.S. Mobil Group

BK1908100895 Hanoi VNA in English
0640 GMT 19 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA August 19 — Vietnam's crude oil will soon be sold for the first time directly to an American company under a contract signed in Ho Chi Minh City on August. 16.

The contract to this effect was signed between the national oil equipment and technology import corporation (Petechim) under the Vietnam petroleum corporation (Petrovietnam) and Mobil Group of the US.

The two parties to the contract also discussed possibilities for bilateral cooperation in sectors of mutual concern.

From the output of 40,000 tonnes of crude in 1986 when Vietnam's first crude oil tonnage was pumped, the country has produced more than 30 million tonnes of crude oil over the last ten years. In the first six months of this year, it exploited 3.98 million tonnes of crude.

Vietnam is stepping up every effort to achieve between 30-40 million tonnes of crude oil per year after the year 2000.

Committee Announces Water Levels Reach Grade 2

BK1808145995 Hanoi VNA in English
0627 GMT 18 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA August 18 — The Hanoi Flood and Storm Protection Committee announced yesterday that the water level in the Red River has risen to warning grade 2 from 4:55 A.M. on Wednesday. In Tuyen Quang, water in the Lo River had risen to 26.5 metres above sea level at 1 P.M. on Wednesday and was expected to reach 27.5 metres that night, according to the provincial meteorological office.

The swollen river has brought flooding to many sections of Highway 2 between Hanoi and Tuyen Quang and Tuyen Quang to Ha Giang. The road from Tuyen Quang Town to Tan Trao has also been waterlogged since Wednesday morning. Hotel Song Lo and many main roads in Tuyen Quang Town have been flooded, with some places under 1.5 metres of water.

More than 2000 hectares of rice and thousands of houses and government offices were submerged by a metre of water. In Ha Giang two people were killed and four others injured in the torrential rains which caused floods and extensive damage in Ha Giang Province late last week.

Heavy rains have fallen continuously since August 11, flooding many bridges and causing landslides on several road sections. In Bac Thai the water at Gia Bay Bridge on the Cau River of Bac Thai Province had risen to 28.9 metres above sea level at 5 P.M. on Wednesday, one metre higher than the warning grade 3, according to the Bac Thai Meteorological Office. It forecasts that the flood would continue to rise on Thursday.

The heavy rain on August 15 and 16 deluged 3000 hectares of rice and cash crops and 2000 houses along Highway 15 and 1B here. Local authorities and relevant sectors such as transport, agriculture and irrigation are assisting people affected by the floods in an effort to stabilise the situation and return people to their normal lives.

Australia

Government Joins New Zealand Nuclear Protest

LD2308115495 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 1100 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia has formally decided to join New Zealand's case in the International Court of Justice against the French nuclear tests in the Pacific. Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans says Australia will lodge documents at the court today. Senator Evans says the case raises important issues of international environmental law affecting all countries. He says the government is confident that adding Australia's voice to the case will reinforce in the court the concern shared with South Pacific countries.

New Zealand is seeking to reopen its 1973 case against the French tests in the World Court. Senator Evans says it is hoped the first hearings will be held in time for the court to rule on New Zealand's application before the French program begins next month.

Senate Condemns French, Chinese Nuclear Testing

LD2308075395 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0700 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Australian senate has passed a motion condemning France's decision to resume nuclear tests in the South Pacific. The upper house has called on France and China to immediately halt their weapons tests, with senators unanimously supporting a motion deploring France's plans. The motion also condemned China's nuclear tests, saying Beijing had pledged to exercise utmost restraint at a recent nonproliferation treaty conference.

Protest Note on Dissidents Delivered to Vietnam

BK2308063595 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 23 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia has protested formally to Vietnam over its recent jailing of religious and political dissidents. Christopher Kramer reports that a diplomatic protest note was delivered to the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi by Australia's ambassador, Sue Boyd.

[Begin Kramer recording] The protest followed similar action by the United States, which formally objected to the jailing this month of nine political dissidents— including two Vietnamese Americans— for up to 15 years. A subsequent jailing of six Buddhists has been criticized by Amnesty International as a crackdown on religious dissent.

At a meeting lasting about 40 minutes, Foreign Ministry officials told Australian Ambassador Sue Boyd both cases were dealt with according to Vietnamese law. Ambassador Boyd is understood to have responded that some Vietnamese regulations may be in breach of international law on human rights. [end recording]

Philippines President Ramos Arrives on Visit

Urges 'Collaboration' With PRC

BK1908125695 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 1100 GMT 19 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The visit by the Philippine president, Fidel Ramos, to Australia has brought out scores of protesters in Melbourne. Mr. Ramos addressed the meeting of several hundred people in Melbourne as the demonstration went ahead outside the hall where he spoke.

(Yarn Velkemp) reports many Filipinos now settled in Australia are worried about democracy in their country:

[Begin recording] [(Velkemp)] President Ramos hopes to attract Australian investment in the Philippines, and he's holding out political stability and a more democratic society as a suitable background. (Ray Takia), who spoke at today's protest, says 600 trade union organizers have been arrested in the Philippines in the past six months and this suppression must stop. Mr. (Takia) says a military cooperation agreement to be singed by Australia and the Philippines must be questioned.

[(Takia)] We don't want the Australian Government to support the repressive (?policy) that this government is now carrying on in the Philippines. [applause from crowd] We don't want the Australian Government to continue supporting a future dictator like Ramos. [end recording]

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0745 GMT on 19 August, in a Sydney-datelined report, adds: "Southeast Asian nations should seek to draw China into a network of regional collaboration as the Chinese adopted a more mellow approach to the Spratly Islands dispute, said Philippine President Fidel Ramos. 'Our best approach to China is not by containing it in the Cold War manner, but by drawing it into the network of collaboration that now links our own countries,' Ramos told the Asia-Australia Institute here Friday night. Enduring regional stability would depend on closer collaboration with China on a political and economic level, he told a meeting of the institute, attended by Asian specialists and business leaders.

["'This... is the most volatile issue in Southeast Asia,' Ramos said, noting that nearly a quarter of the world's maritime freight passes through the disputed Spratly Island group. Optimism currently prevailed on the issue with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 'betting that economic interdependence and mutual benefit can pre-empt the rise of old-fashioned political antagonisms' he said." Ramos is further quoted as saying that Philippines diplomats had "discerned a Chinese mellowing over their territorial claims," although Chinese officials "continue to insist on their country's 'indisputable sovereignty.'"]

Views Canberra's Role in Asia

BK2108092995 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0630 GMT 21 Aug 95

[From the "International Report" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Philippine President Fidel Ramos says Australia is too much talk and not enough action when it comes to linking up with Asia. He says Australia has an important economic and strategic role to play in the region, but spends too much time talking about how to go about it.

And in an interview with Radio Australia's John Westland, the president also backed Australia's presence at a summit of Asian and European leaders, but he conceded that it won't be possible in the first round in Bangkok next year:

[Begin recording] [Westland] In Brunei earlier this month, Australia lobbied hard to be included in next years's European-Asian leaders meeting in Bangkok, but what it got were indications that it may be included in the second such summit. An invitation to Bangkok may well have been the gloss on Canberra's push into the Asian region, but according to Filipino leader President Fidel Ramos the substance is there. Australia just worries too much about the form.

[Ramos] The Philippines also [words indistinct] with that kind of a role for Australia. However, it appears to me that there is just too much debate about what is the label; what is the role that you should be playing. I just suggest, very respectfully, that you just do it. Meaning just go in there and be a part of Asia.

[Westland] So how should those links be achieved? Is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, the correct vehicle?

[Ramos] Well, ASEAN now considers Australia a valuable dialogue partner as well as a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum, and it is to the credit of Australia that she has deeply involved herself in the economic, security, and the cultural aspects of ASEAN life. I do consider that the ASEAN itself, with its seven members now which could grow into a membership of 10 eventually, or at least the Southeast Asian group, or SEA Ten, plus Australia plus New Zealand can be considered to be the moderating influences, the balancing influences in the entire Asia-Pacific region, considering that there are some big players out there — the United States, Japan, China, possibly Russia later on. And so, since the stability and security of Asia-Pacific is the most important condition to be attained so that we can maintain our dynamic growth rate well into the 21st century, then the so-called middle countries or the middle powers — with ASEAN as a group plus Australia and New Zealand together — can provide a very important balancing role to make sure that no one undertakes unilaterally any surprises against the others.

[Westland] And you see that there may be surprises coming from some of those superpowers?

[Ramos] I am not saying that there will be, but why don't we take actions now through a positive balancing role so that such surprises do not happen at all?

[Westland] Should Australia go to the Asia-Europe summit, the summit of leaders in Bangkok next year?

[Ramos] Well, the venue and the participants for this coming Europe-Asia dialogue or Europe-ASEAN dialogue has already been set, but surely the Philippines should be happy to see Australia and New Zealand taking part in the next round after this one.

[Westland] So the year after all if it's to be in 1996 or 1997?

[Ramos interrupting] Seven.

[Westland] Then Australia would be welcomed.

[Ramos] On the part of the Philippines we have no problem with that. We welcome, speaking as one member country. [end recording]

Comments on Economic Competition

BK2208021995 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 21 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos is now in the Australian capital of Canberra, where he arrived yesterday. He was immediately treated to formal welcoming ceremonies at the Parliament House led by Prime Minister Paul Keating. Here is a report:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Nike Lorenzo] The president arrived from Melbourne, one of Australia's big cities. Ramos spoke to a group of businessmen while in Melbourne, where he asked the Australians not to allow military conflict, trade disputes, and dictatorships to serve as obstacles to economic development in the Asia-Pacific.

[Ramos, in English] Even if the ARF [ASEAN Regional Forum] sustains the military balance, it will be easy for unrestrained economic competition to degenerate into (beggar-my-neighbor) policies, for greed and speculation to ruin our interconnected markets, without an institution to moderate competition among us.

[Lorenzo] Earlier, the president held a breakfast meeting with leaders of the Australian mining industry. The president expressed pleasure over the Australian mining companies' intention to mine in the Philippines. The president assured them that they will receive support from the government to hasten establishment of their businesses in the country.

[Unidentified Australian businessman, in English] What we asked the president is how we can get better administrative relationships with the (public), and particularly with the local landowners, the people who live in the isolated areas in which we operate.

[Lorenzo] The University of Melbourne awarded Ramos an honorary doctoral law degree for his contribution to the economic and political stability of the Philippines. Ramos and Keating are scheduled to meet in Canberra to discuss ways to strengthen economic cooperation between the Philippines and Australia. [end recording]

Meets Keating, Discusses Partnership

BK2208071795 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia says a strong partnership with Southeast Asia would balance the influence of the great regional powers — Japan, China, and the United States. The prime minister, Paul Keating, said doing things together would mean that smaller regional states could stay out of the orbit of the big powers.

Mr. Keating said he had extensive discussions in Canberra today with the Philippines president, Fidel Ramos, on the idea of an economic and security partnership between Australia, New Zealand, and the ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] states.

President Ramos said Australia, New Zealand, and the ten countries of Southeast Asia and Indochina could be effective countervailing or counterbalancing forces, but he said this was not a proposal for a military alliance. The combined economic clout and influence of the region would give them an ability to persuade the big Asian Pacific powers.

Keating, Ramos Condemn Nuclear Tests

BK2308025695 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Australia and the Philippines jointly expressed strong condemnation of France's plans for nuclear testing this coming September. During their meeting, President Ramos and Prime Minister Paul Keating jointly accused France of ignoring protest calls to stop nuclear arms proliferation. France is scheduled to test its nuclear weapons in the South Pacific this coming September amid worldwide protests. Likewise, the two leaders condemned China for the nuclear arms testing it has recently conducted. They said the move was counter to worldwide calls to end nuclear arms production.

Defense Cooperation Accord Signed

BK2308035595 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos signed five joint agreements on the final day of his visit to Canberra, including a defense cooperation agreement.

[Begin correspondent Nike Lorenzo recording] Australia and the Philippines are expected to develop strong relations on mutual defense cooperation after the signing of a memorandum of understanding on cooperative defense activities. The president clarified that the defense agreement is not for a military alliance but is an executive agreement like the agreements the government has signed with South Korea, France, Malaysia, and Singapore.

The agreement was signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Domingo Siazon and Australian Defense Minister Robert Ray. Under the agreement, the armed forces of both countries will have access to refueling, replenishment, and repair facilities, to maintenance of planes and ships, to information exchanges on defense, and to joint military training and exercises.

Other agreements signed include a smart traffic signalling project, a (concessional) financing for development project, and an expansion and rehabilitation of [word indistinct] systems project. Ramos has signed a total of 26 bilateral and business agreements during his visit to Australia.

In a meeting with Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, the Australian leader warmly welcomed Ramos's call for development of commercial exchange and regional economic cooperation among the 10 nations in Southeast Asia, including New Zealand and Australia. According to Keating, he and Ramos are excited over the establishment of a Pacific rim organization that will push for intercommunity trade. According to the president, the (middle) power in the Asia-Pacific region should now establish strong trade and investment to create a balance with the four superpowers — Japan, China, Russia, and the United States. [end recording]

New Zealand

Bolger, Ramos Oppose French Nuclear Tests

BK1708142995 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 16 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos spent his first day in New Zealand defending his administration's human rights record and appealing to France to drop its plans for nuclear testing in the South Pacific. Here is the report:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] President Ramos and his delegation were met at the Wellington International Airport by New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger. The two leaders have immediately agreed to oppose the French Government's plans to conduct testing at the Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific. Ramos stressed the Philippines' opposition to France's plans. In a news conference, Prime Minister Jim Bolger welcomed Ramos's stand against French nuclear tests.

[Bolger, in English] I believe that it will add strength to the argument that New Zealand and many other countries are making around the world with particular direct relevance, of course, to proposed testing by France. But, of course, we also know that China has recently tested, and the suggestions are they will test again. So it is really against all nuclear testing, rather than distinguishing in detail between the two.

[Correspondent] Ramos told the 15 New Zealand labor activists at the Parliament House that his administration is strictly opposed to human rights violations, especially those committed by the police and the military.

The president's two-day visit in New Zealand aims to improve trade cooperation between the two countries. The president expressed intentions to rectify the trade deficit with New Zealand in the amount of $45 million. The president is scheduled to go to Auckland tomorrow. [end recording]

Papua New Guinea

Rebels Destroy Office; Bougainville Under Curfew

LD2208095495 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 22 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] has destroyed a newly built government district office at Soraken on the northwest of the secessionist Papua New Guinea island. Sean Dorney says the arson attack appears to be part of a campaign of destruction by the BRA to disrupt the restoration program.

[Begin Dorney recording] The Soraken District Office, which Bougainville transitional government officials say cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to build, was set alight by members of a 12-man BRA hit squad yesterday. They had driven into Soraken in an ambulance which they had hijacked from a sub-health center. The squad also set two trade stores and a cocoa storage shed ablaze, destroying about 1,300 bags of cocoa that were awaiting export. They then stole a second ambulance and set it alight when it broke down after crossing a river. A dusk to dawn curfew has been declared in northern Bougainville. Sean Dorney, Port Moresby. [end recording]

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